

IHSS Public Authority Advisory Board Meeting
June 21, 2022
MINUTES

ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING

<https://zoom.us/j/97448761420?pwd=bmR1b3NIMEVUWHR1UGFkNUo4V1Z0UT09>

Meeting ID: 974 4876 1420

Passcode: 293979

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*****This meeting is being recorded for purposes of capturing the meeting minutes.***

Members Present via Virtual/Conf. Call: Mathew Lubinsky; Darcy McCann; Lori Andersen;
Janie Whiteford; Beverly Lozoff; Terri Possley (Ex-Officio); Emilio Carrillo

Members Absent: David Forderer

PA Staff Present via Virtual/Conf. Call: Edith Gong, Leticia Sabadin

Guests Present via Virtual/Conf. Call: Narendra Pathak, IHSS Consumer & Guest; Peter Estaniel, Board Aide for Board of Supervisor Simitian, District 5; Gianna Spina, ILS/PAS Coordinator @ SVILC; Demetrius (Dino) Evans, Housing/ILC @ SVILC; Joanna Kent, IHSS Care Provider & Guest; Steve Kline, Board Aide for Board of Supervisor Ellenberg, District 4; Adrian Olea, SEIU 2015 Union Steward; Joyce Felix, HCBS Program Manager, LTSS @ SCFHP

Announcements & Public Comment:

- Edith Gong announced that we need to add an agenda item; this board needs to work on recommendations for the annual report.
- Emilio Carrillo just wanted to apologize for not attending last month, he was recuperating from COVID-19.
- Narendra Pathak wanted to reiterate that the Indian Community is very happy with the services that IHSS provides to all, to Senior Citizens and thanked everyone.
- Lori Andersen announced in her introduction that she will be resigning from this board effective June 30, 2022. She has introduced us to Joyce Felix who will hopefully fill her seat on this board.
- Janie Whiteford mentioned that with Lori's resignation, this board needs to push and advocate for Joyce Felix' membership application. She encouraged and asked all board members to make phone calls and send emails to the Board of Supervisors, each board office, and ask them to please review and approve Joyce's application.
- Edith Gong asked both board aides in attendance today, Peter Estaniel and Steve Kline, if they had any suggestions as to how we can get Joyce Felix's application approved quickly. They both stated that calling and emailing the BOS offices is a good way plus contacting the Clerk of the Board as well as being persistent and consistent in your communications. In order to

maintain quorum and see the commission build we need assistance in getting these applications approved in a timely manner.

- Gianna Spina wanted to announce:
 - A new SVILC Housing Supervisor will start on June 27, 2022
 - For Sunnyvale residents, the City of Sunnyvale has funds to assist residents in need of Rent help; this will be available until the end of December 2022
 - SVILC is still hiring! They are looking specifically for Service Coordinators and Case Managers, and especially people with disabilities. Please contact Gianna directly.

Approval of Minutes:

- Motion by Darcy McCann to approve the May 17, 2022 meeting minutes; seconded by Emilio Carrillo and Lori Andersen, vote was unanimous.

Nominate & Vote for New Vice Chair:

- This is Janie's last meeting as Chair, beginning next month, new Chair Mathew Lubinsky will host meetings and we need to vote in a Vice Chair.
- Darcy McCann self-nominated for Vice Chair. Thank you Darcy! All members issued a vote of confidence; vote was unanimous.

Home & Community Based Services:

- Joyce Felix from SCFHP shared a PowerPoint presentation giving a brief overview of the Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Spending Plan.
- This presentation will not be included in these minutes, but Leticia will email it out to all.

HCBS Spending Plan

HCBS are long-term services & supports provided in home and community-based settings, as recognized under the federal Medicaid (Medi-Cal) Program.

Purpose of the HCBS Spending Plan is to enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS.

\$3 billion in enhanced federal funding

5 categories and 27 initiatives

- 1) Workforce: Retaining and Building a Network of HCBS Direct Care Workers
 - 2) HCBS Navigation
 - 3) HCBS Transitions
 - 4) Services: Enhancing HCBS Capacity and Models of Care
 - 5) HCBS Infrastructure and Support
- Janie asked about funding for this plan, where can they apply for grants, etc. It appears this is an unknown as to who is administering funds for this program.

California IHSS Consumer Alliance Report (CICA):

- Janie announced that the ask to reinstate original AB budget amount (\$56K) with the assistance from Assemblyman Ash Kalra was denied.
- CICA will be pursuing this next year through writing up a bill and going through that process again.
- CICA is pursuing membership from individuals, they are doing a huge outreach to IHSS consumers.
- Janie encouraging more outreach within our community and partnering with other organizations. Seek more representation from consumers and other counties

- Janie encourages and thanks all who attend the CICA monthly calls on the 3rd Wednesday of the month.
- In July and August CICA plans to focus on Legislative Training; it will be done in two parts.
- Joanna Kent, Guest, asked about the training opportunities --if they are available to all, even IPs. Janie answered her and stated that, yes the trainings are for everyone. Janie provided Joanna her email and asked Joanna to contact her directly for more information.

SEIU Local 2015 Report:

- Emilio Carrillo, Union representative mentioned the upcoming quarterly meeting at the Zanker office.
- Adrian Olea stated that the quarterly meeting is scheduled for this Saturday, June 25th. They are expecting over 300 members. There will be health care plan representatives as well as reps from the dental and vision plans. This is the first in-person quarterly meeting post COVID-19.
- Adrian also mentioned the various trainings the union offers. These trainings will be in person, which will begin in July. There is training for sick leave and ETS (Electronic Timesheets). If an IP needs help they can call to make an appointment with a union staff member. The trainings are offered to IP members, if a non-member is interested, the union will ask them to become a union member.
- They have open positions for union staff and organizers. Info can be found on the SEIU 2015 website.

Social Services Agency Report:

- Terri reported good news that the State must inform counties of the end of medical emergency. They need to give 60 days' notice so counties have the ability to ramp up to meet the deadline. IHSS is conducting most business by phone regarding the annual reassessments and they will continue this way until notified by the State.
- Other good news to share was that the IHSS budget was approved! IHSS has 17 positions for more staff, they can move ahead and start hiring. Positions include: 12 Social Workers, 1 Supervisor, 1 Data Office Specialist, 1 Call Agent, 1 Office Specialist II, 1 QA/Fraud Reviewer. Terri says they are very excited and look forward to the additional help.
- Unfortunately, on the legislative front, the proposal for IHSS re-assessments every 3 years for stable consumers was not approved. For now, the Social Workers will continue to go out every year or possibly every 18 months for re-assessments.

Adrian asked about the Covid sick pay and vaccine pay. There are new forms to fill out and Edith will send them Adrian.

Joanna Kent asked about the difference between new IP orientation, union membership and the enrollment process. There seems to be some confusion with IPs. Edith briefly explained the process and mentioned the transition in the process of returning to in-person group orientation and that may be the cause of confusion for newly enrolled IPs. Edith thanked Joanna about the Provider support group that she is involved with. Edith would like to meet with Joanna offline to discuss in more detail.

Adrian offered his direct line for anyone that may need assistance with the Union. Adrian Olea's phone number: 510-424-2098.

PROGRAMS REPORT

Below in **yellow/OR *asterisk** were topics that were highlighted and mentioned.

The Public Authority hired a training specialist that is scheduled to start on 6/16. This is the last open position to be filled.

Benefits Administration:

There are **12,642** IPs enrolled in the Valley Health Plan with **3,311** of those in the Classic Plan and **9,331** in the Preferred Plan. **13,276** IPs are enrolled in the Dental/Vision plans. There were **69** Smart Pass VTA Cards issued.

Enrollment:

Number of IPs enrolled: **429**

Fingerprints that are delayed (awaiting DOJ results): **2**

Scheduling an appointment is ~20 business days (4 weeks) from the time an IP completes the viewing of the orientation videos. A larger influx of enrolling providers, fingerprinting and the restarting of group appointments is affecting future appointment dates. The team is continuing to tweak the daily schedules to try and shorten the wait time for an appointment.

Group sessions with SEIU 2015 are re-starting on June 10.

Registry Services:

There are **514** active IPs on the registry and **2,389** active consumers.

The Registry:

- Completed **86** new consumer intakes and reactivated **0** consumers
- Attained **50** matches
- Provided **576** new interventions with over **226 hours** spent on the interventions

Care Coaching: The Registry received **10** referrals for Care Coaching

- **6** care coaching consultations were conducted
- Total active consumers **18**
- Total inactive consumers **213**

Started home visits

Urgent Care Registry: There were **12** hours of urgent care services this month for **2** consumers.

Emergency Backup Registry: There were no (0) requests for an emergency backup provider this month. There are a total of **11** providers on the emergency backup registry.

Registry Introductory Training (RIT): **Two** remote RITs were held; one each of English and Spanish.

- **33** interviews were conducted
- **75** reference check calls made, with **66** completed reference checks
- **23** providers attended the eRITs; 17 ENG / 6 SP

- **23 providers** were added to the registry; 17 ENG / 6 SP

Outreach efforts, 2 ads in the Mercury News.

EPG (formerly PPE): A total of **78** kits were mailed with **44** sets going to IPs and **34** to Consumers for a total of **780** masks and **1,460** pairs of gloves.

Public Authority Phone Calls: The PA received **4,915** phone calls. Breakdown of the calls:

- **Registry 1,686**
- **Enrollment 1,354**
- **General* 0**
- **Benefits 1,558**
- **Training/PPE 317**

*The PA migrated fully to MS Teams Voice, so we used the opportunity to remove the General phone queue so callers would be able to go directly to the department they needed within the PA. General phone queue numbers will be removed from future reports.

IP Trainings: **12** classes were held. **77** individual IPs were trained and received credit/incentive payments totaling **\$2,475**. Three Vietnamese classes, one Mandarin class and one English class had to be cancelled because of low class registration.

Language	#
English	5
Mandarin	3
Spanish	2
Vietnamese	2

Location	#
Central – San Jose/Santa Clara	0
North – Milpitas	2
South – Morgan Hill	1
West – Sunnyvale/Cupertino	7
Online	2

Electronic Time Sheets: The combined adoption rate is **99.8%**; providers reached **99.7%** and consumers reached **99.8%**.

Direct Deposit: **79.3%** of paid providers are using direct deposit.

Sick Leave Update: **28,587** active IPs have accrued 16 hours of sick leave. **6,390** have claimed some hours and **5,214** have claimed all 16 hours.

CAPA REPORT

*Below in yellow/OR *asterisk were topics that were highlighted and mentioned.*

CAPA met on May 26 via Zoom.

Legislative and Budget Update

- The May revise is underway and CAPA is working closely with CWDA and CSAC regarding revised trailer bill language around the permanent backup registry. Many of the bills are going through with lightning

speed while many have died in committee. CAPA ED, Kim Levy Rothschild, has provided support testimony on several bills.

- Updated positions and new bills are highlighted in yellow. Some bills have been removed from the CAPA tracking list (AB 98, AB 1993, AB 2020, AB 2262, SB 731, SB 1098).

Bill #	Author	Topic	Summary	CAPA Position
AB 1355	Levine	Medi-Cal: Independent Medical Review System	Would require the State Department of Health Care Services to establish the Independent Medical Review System (IMRS) for the Medi-Cal program, commencing on January 1, 2023.	Watch
AB 1751	Daly	Workers' compensation: COVID-19: critical workers	Current law defines "injury" for an employee to include illness or death resulting from the 2019 novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) under specified circumstances, until January 1, 2023. Current law requires an employee to exhaust their paid sick leave benefits and meet specified certification requirements before receiving any temporary disability benefits or, for police officers, firefighters, and other specified employees, a leave of absence. This bill would extend the provisions relating to COVID-19 until January 1, 2025.	Watch
AB 1797	Weber	Immunization registry.	Existing law authorizes local health officers & State Department of Public health to operate immunization information systems; also allows disclosure of patient or client demographic information, immunization data, adverse reactions to the immunization, or other information needed to identify the patient or client or to comply with other laws. This bill would instead require health care providers and other agencies, to disclose the specified immunization information, and add race or ethnicity to the list of information that shall or may be disclosed.	Watch
AB 1900	Arambula	Medi-Cal: income level for maintenance.	Under current law, certain medically needy persons with higher incomes qualify for Medi-Cal with a share of cost, if they meet specified criteria. Existing law requires income levels for maintenance at the lowest levels that reasonably permit a medically needy person to meet their basic needs. For a single individual, the amount of the income level is based on a calculation of 80% of the highest amount that would ordinarily be paid to a family of 2 persons. This bill would increase the income level for maintenance to be equal to the income limit for Medi-Cal without a share of cost for individuals who are 65 years of age or older or are disabled, generally totaling 138% of the federal poverty level.	Support
AB 1944	Lee	Local government: open and public meetings.	Current law, the Ralph M. Brown Act, requires, with specified exceptions, that all meetings of a legislative body of a local agency, as those terms are defined, be open and public and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate. Current law, until January 1, 2024, authorizes a local agency to use teleconferencing without complying with those specified teleconferencing requirements in specified circumstances when a declared state of emergency is in effect, or in other situations related to public health. This bill would specify that if a member of a legislative body elects to teleconference from a location that is not public, the address does not need to be identified in the notice and agenda or be accessible to the public when the legislative body has elected to allow members to participate via teleconferencing.	Support

AB 2449	Rubio, Blanca	Open meetings: local agencies, teleconferences	This bill would authorize remote participation in local public meetings if at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body participates in person from a location clearly identified on the agenda that is also open to the public and situated within the boundaries of the local agencies. The local agency must post agendas, members of the legislative body attending the meeting by teleconference must participate in both audio and video formats, and members of the public must have call-in and internet-based access for attending and participating in the meetings.	Watch
SB 842	Dodd	Health care: medical goods: reuse and redistribution.	Would require the Department of Rehabilitation to establish a comprehensive 3-year pilot program in the Counties of Contra Costa, Napa, Solano, and Yolo to facilitate the reuse and redistribution of durable medical equipment and other home health supplies. The bill would require the department to contract in each county with a local nonprofit agency to oversee the program and require the nonprofit agency to develop a computerized system to track the inventory of equipment and supplies available for reuse and redistribution and organize pickup and delivery of equipment and supplies. Requires Department on or before January 1, 2026, to submit a report that includes an evaluation of successes/challenges of the pilot program; bill would repeal its provisions on January 1, 2030.	Support
SB 861	Limon	Dementia Care Navigator Grant Program.	Would establish the Dementia Care Navigator Grant Program, to be administered by the California Department of Aging, in partnership with organizations with expertise using community health workers, promoters, and health navigators. The bill would require an organization that receives a grant to provide an annual report on the services provided on or before December 31 of the year the grant is received.	Support
SB 1093	Hurtado	Community care facilities: criminal background checks.	This bill removes the requirement that a request to transfer a current criminal record clearance from one licensed community care facility to another be made in writing to the Department of Social Services (CDSS). This bill instead requires the licensee to submit a request for such a transfer via a form provided by CDSS or submission via the department's secure online portal.	Position not needed
SB 1100	Cortese	Open meetings: orderly conduct.	This bill would authorize the presiding member of the legislative body conducting a meeting to remove an individual for willfully interrupting the meeting. And, except as provided, would require removal to be preceded by a warning by the presiding member of the legislative body and request that the individual curtail their disruptive behavior.	Watch

CDSS Updates

Permanent Provider Backup System

- Final trailer bill language is being reviewed by stakeholders. Current version includes the following:
 - Starts October 1, 2022. Backup Provider is system available M-F excluding holidays - the same PA/County business hours.
 - \$2 wage differential on the current prevailing county wage; also subject to appropriation in the annual budget.

- PAs/Counties can use Backup Provider System Admin Funding to augment outside business hours, on weekends and holidays. PAs/Counties must regularly assess the needs and expand hours as necessary.
- Eligibility criteria includes:
 - Urgent need for backup support services for personal care which cannot be met by exiting provider or recipient is transitioning from an institution and does not yet have an identified provider.
 - Health and safety are at risk if they do not receive their regularly scheduled IHSS services that may result in the need for emergency services and/or out-of-home placement if backup services are not provided.
- Other guidelines
 - Temporary service
 - Consumers can utilize up to 80 hours annually (from the first month services are provided). Exceptions can be granted on an as-needed basis for severely impaired recipients but cannot exceed 160 hours annually.
 - All hours received using the backup system count toward the total monthly authorized hours.
 - If a recipient has two or more regular providers, on each occasion a recipient has a need for backup services, a one-time exception for any applicable provider workweek limitation may be authorized for one of regular providers in lieu of finding a backup provider.
 - Recipients retain the right to hire, supervise and terminate their backup providers.
- PAs/Counties are only responsible for:
 - Recruiting, enrolling and making reasonable efforts to identify and recruit providers
 - Responding to recipient requests for backup care
 - Referring one or more backup providers, consistent with recipient's needs/preferences. This is NOT a guaranteed service, but a best effort.
 - Entering information into CMIPS for tracking and payment to providers.

Career Pathways

- Seven PAs/counties applied to provide 70 classes for career pathways.
- RFPs received; notice of intent to award will be posted by 6/3/22.
- Reimbursement rates and per class rates are not yet finalized. They anticipate having final reimbursement costs by end of June.
- CMIPS development work is under way with testing starting soon; all work is scheduled to be completed by August and live in September.

Mentioned by Edith, but not in the written report:

Public Authority was approved for training classes for Career Pathways. The PA will train on three classes: The Skilled Care Provider, Disaster & Preparedness, Caregiver Stress Management.

Janie says that Homebridge has applied for a grant for training under Career Pathways.

AB Recommendations for Annual Report:

- Janie announced that on an annual basis, this board has a function to give recommendations to the BOS. These are recommendations, issues, concerns that we need to bring to attention.

- Would like to get feedback from all members.
- Some items that were brought up as a quick brainstorm:
 - Joanna stated that a non-live in, non-family member, non-parent provider should get paid more
 - Mathew stated that an IP should get paid extra when the Consumer goes into the hospital
 - Mathew also mentioned that an IP who handles bladder care should have an increase in pay
 - Consumer education, consumer mentoring program
 - PA budget increase, and/or boards supplement funds to the PA
- Edith will be working with Mathew and Janie to review those mentioned and have them drafted and ready for final review.

Notes:

- Leticia will send out Joyce's presentation.
- Leticia will send members information and bio on Joyce Felix for the members to make phone calls and send emails to the Board of Supervisors.

Next Meeting:

- Next Advisory Board meeting:
Tuesday, July 19, 2022, from 12 noon to 1:30 pm via ZOOM Virtual/Conference call.

Next agenda items:

- *Approve Final Recommendations for the Annual Report*
- *Remove HCBS Spending Plan for July and August*