



SONOMA COUNTY  
**IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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**IHSS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Minutes of March 28, 2011**

**Present:** Stan Gow, Vice Chair  
Nancy Hall, Secretary  
Joann Keyston, Chair  
Richard Ruge  
Sachiko Williams  
Herb Willsmore

**Absent:** Gary Fontenot, Ex-officio member  
Mary Bodily

**Staff:** Michael Humphrey, Manager – IHSS Public Authority  
Diane Kaljian, Director – Adult & Aging Division  
John Chan, Supervisor – IHSS Registry  
Lorna Schreck, Secretary – IHSS Public Authority

**Guests:** Jane Eckels, Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council  
Henry Lasky, Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council  
Gail Pardini, Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council

**1. Call to Order/Review Agenda**

J. Keyston called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

**2. Public Comments - none**

**3. Mandated Ethics Review – AB1234**

Members and guests viewed the AB 1234 movie. Each signed the proof of participation certificate.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

Members accepted the minutes of the January 24, 2012 Advisory Committee meeting as presented

**5. Statistics and Updates**

A. Statistics

- 1) D. Kaljian reported that the change in paid hours and number of clients reflects the 3.6% reduction and does not reflect the growth of the IHSS program.

- 2) M. Humphrey reported that the number of slots for health benefits will continue to drop until the cost meets the agreed upon \$0.60 per hour. The waiting time is approximately 18 months.
- 3) The Statistics Report will no longer include a separate line item for Registry DOJ numbers as the DOJ background check numbers are reflected in the New Provider Enrollment section of the report
- 4) The Statistics will no longer report the Training numbers, since budget cuts last year resulted in the suspension of trainings.

#### B. Updates

- 1) Public Authority and Registry Update - M. Humphrey reported that the Registry is now open and accepting applications from all prospective caregivers.
- 2) IHSS Program – no changes or updates at this time
- 3) Provider Enrollment Update – M. Humphrey reported that legislators expanded the list of disqualifying crimes from three to a fairly extensive list of serious and violent felonies, which went into effect on February 1, 2011.

### 6. Budget and Legislative Update and Advocacy

- A. M. Humphrey reported that advocacy and other proposals resulted in a savings to the IHSS section of the State budget as noted below. (Total savings is \$486 million.) The Governor signed the following provisions into law and most will take effect July 1, 2011.
- 1) \$83 million - caseload adjustment
  - 2) \$128 million - Community First Choice Option provides a 6% increase in federal financial participation
  - 3) \$121 million - The medical/health care certificate required as a condition of eligibility
  - 4) \$153 million - Medication dispensing units in the homes of 40,000 highest risk Medi-Cal beneficiaries, with the intent of reducing Medi-Cal costs due to emergency room visits, hospital stays, etc. associated to medication mismanagement
  - 5) \$1.4 million – repeal of IHSS Advisory Committees
    - a) This cut reduces the Sonoma County funding from \$53,000 to \$3,000 (\$5,600 with matching Federal funds). Staff will research

alternatives to present at the next meeting in order to have the Board of Supervisors take action before the end of the fiscal year.

b) Public Authorities are mandated to have an Advisory Committee

- B. In response to a question, D. Kaljian explained that the State had not proposed wage cuts; and, wages in Sonoma County are part of a negotiated contract and the County and Union would need to negotiate any changes to the contract.
- C. D. Kaljian reported that the Governor's budget eliminated Adult Day Health Care – which is Friends House in Sonoma County, although there is legislation for another form of Adult Day Care. She also explained that due to lobbying, legislators only reduced MSSP by 10% instead of eliminating it.
- D. M. Humphrey reported that Noreen Evens is authoring a bill to repeal the requirement for consumer fingerprinting; as well as repealing the bill that requires fingerprints on timesheets; and the requirement for caregivers to use a P.O. Box with very limited exceptions.
- E. M. Humphrey reported that there is a waiver opportunity for clients whose providers were deemed ineligible due to their DOJ criminal background check.
- F. M. Humphrey reported that SSI will be reduced to the federal minimum, which will mean another \$20 reduction.
- G. D. Kaljian reported that the County asked each department to submit 25% reduction plans in order to reduce the deficit.

## **7. Public Comments – None**

## **8. Executive Committee Report**

- A. J. Keyston reported that the Executive Committee reviewed items on today's agenda and the Work Plan Calendar.
- B. J. Keyston joined in a CICA conference call where participants discussed budget and legislative information.

## **9. Correspondence; Announcements & Community Meeting Reports**

- A. N. Hall reported that M. Bodily is recovering after injury and illness. Members circulated and signed a card.
- B. J. Keyston reported that several members attended the Managed Medi-Cal consumer advisory committee meeting and discussions included Medi-Cal cuts and the Partnership's expansion into other counties.

- C. R. Ruge reported that the next DP4VP meeting is on Thursday, March 31 from 1-3 pm at the American Red Cross office. The guest will be a Region IX representative.

**10. Agenda Topics for the next meeting, which will be held on Monday, June 6, 2011**

- A. Regular Reports, including Statistics, Program Updates,
- B. Budget and Legislation, including the Governor's May Budget Revise
- C. The Future of the IHSS Advisory Committee

**11. Adjournment**

- J. Keyston adjourned the meeting at 3:40 p.m.

Submitted by Lorna Schreck, Secretary