



SONOMA COUNTY
IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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**IHSS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Minutes for May (held on June 3, 2009)**

Present: Stan Gow, Chair
Mary Bodily, Vice Chair
Joann Keyston, Secretary
Gary Fontenot, Ex-officio member
Nancy Hall
Mary Raymond
Richard Ruge
Marie White
Sachiko Williams

Absent: Herb Willsmore

Staff: Diane Kaljian, Division Director – Adult and Aging
Michael Humphrey, Manager – IHSS Public Authority
John Chan, Registry Supervisor – IHSS Public Authority
Carol Rex, Manager – IHSS Program
Lorna Schreck, Secretary – IHSS Public Authority

Guests:

1. Call to Order/Review Agenda

S. Gow called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

2. Public Comments – none

3. Approval of Minutes

Members approved the minutes of the April 27, 2009 meeting as presented.

4. IHSS Program Demographics

- A. Carol Rex distributed copies of a PowerPoint presentation reviewing demographics of the IHSS program in April 2005 and April 2009.
- B. Highlights of the PowerPoint presentation and discussion included:
 - 1. There is very little change in the percentages related to gender, age, family caregivers, etc. from 2005 to 2009.

2. The average paid hours per month in 2008-09 is 102.
3. Members discussed the growing need of IHSS in Sonoma County. They noted that some of the growth has come from the number of people now living in the community (Regional Center clients and persons with mental illness).
4. Members agreed that the increase in caregiver wages makes it easier for IHSS recipients to hire and retain their caregivers.

5. Statistics and Updates

- A. There was an explanation of the Quality Assurance desk reviews process.
- B. There was brief discussion of the paid hours.
- C. Diane Kaljian spoke about the IHSS caregiver wages. The Board of Supervisors will be addressing the IHSS wage next Tuesday (June 9). Any change to IHSS wages for Sonoma County will take place effective August 1. She explained the funding for wages: 62% federal dollars, 24% state dollars, and the county covers the remainder. The MOU with the Union has a clause that requires the County to continue to contribute the same dollar amount that existed on the day prior to any change in the state and/or federal percentages.

6. Budget and Legislative Update and Advocacy

- A. M. Humphrey distributed a *Legislative Update*, the list of *California 2009 Budget Conference Committee* members, and a *Summary of the Governor's Budget Proposals*.
- B. He explained the legislative process and pointed out that AB 392 (directing a portion of the fines against long term care facilities to the Ombudsman Program), which the Committee supported, moved forward.
- C. M. White pointed out that bills heading for appropriations probably will not move out of appropriations.
- D. M. Humphrey highlighted information from the State's proposed budget cuts. He reported that caregivers and care recipients are presenting strong and passionate testimony at the budget hearings.

1. **ACTION**

- a) Mary Bodily made a motion that the Advisory Committee send a letter opposing the Proposed Budget Cuts to In-Home Supportive Services
- b) Nancy Hall seconded the motion
- c) Public Comments - none
- d) Discussion - none
- e) The motion passed unanimously

2. **ACTION**

- a) Joann Keyston made a motion that the Advisory Committee send a letter opposing the Proposed Budget Cuts to MSSP and Linkages.
- b) Richard Ruge seconded the motion
- c) Public Comments - none
- d) Discussion - None
- e) The motion passed unanimously

3. **ACTION**

- a) Nancy Hall made a motion that the Advisory Committee send a letter opposing the following Proposed Budget Cuts: Caregiver Resource Centers, Adult Day Health Care, Alzheimer's Day Care Resource Centers, and Senior Brown Bag and Respite Care.
- b) Joann Keyston seconded the motion
- c) Public Comments - none
- d) Discussion – G. Fontenot explained the various programs and services, their vulnerabilities, and the crucial need to keep these programs.
- e) The motion passed unanimously

7. Public Comments –None

8. Executive Committee Report

S. Gow reported that the Executive Committee reviewed items on today's agenda and the Work Plan Calendar.

9. Comments about Today's Video: *"How to Communicate with Someone Who Has Alzheimer's Disease"*

Five members viewed the video and thought it was excellent. The information is very helpful for all avenues of communication. They agreed that keeping everything in the moment and singing is very much part of how to live and love life.

10. Correspondence; Announcements & Community Meeting Reports

- A. N. Hall went to Sacramento on May 27 and reported that Assemblyman Wes Chesbro spoke at the rally.
- B. M. White announced that all health care workers are invited to attend a social on July 10 at the Cotati Town Hall.
- C. J. Keyston announced that DSLC (formerly CRI) is holding a Casino Night fundraiser on June 26.
- D. The District Attorney's office is hosting an Elder Protection Summit on June 30 at the Berger Center in Oakmont.
- E. J. Keyston attended the County Budget Hearings and found the stories most compelling and the day most emotional.

11. Agenda Topics for the June meeting, which will be held on Monday, June 29, 2009

- A. Annual review the IHSS Public Authority Goals & Accomplishments for 2008-2009 and the Goals & Objective for FY 2009-2010
- B. "iWalk," is a new program created by Sonoma County's Health Action Network to promote the health benefits of walking. Susan Alesi (AAA Planner) will make a presentation and seek input on how the program can be inclusive of the disability community, including identifying and listing accessible walking/rolling routes in Sonoma County.
- C. Regular Reports, including Statistics, Updates, Budget and Legislation

12. Adjournment

- S. Gow adjourned the meeting at 2:45 p.m.

Submitted by Lorna Schreck, Secretary