



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

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**IHSS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Minutes of September 28, 2009**

**Present:** Stan Gow, Chair  
Gary Fontenot, Ex-officio member  
Nancy Hall  
Richard Ruge  
Marie White  
Sachiko Williams

**Absent:** Mary Bodily, Vice Chair  
Joann Keyston, Secretary  
Mary Raymond  
Herb Willsmore

**Staff:** Michael Humphrey, Manager – IHSS Public Authority  
Carol Rex, Program Manager – IHSS  
John Chan, Registry Supervisor – IHSS Public Authority  
Lorna Schreck, Secretary – IHSS Public Authority

**Guests:**

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

S. Gow called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

**2. Public Comments – none**

**3. Approval of Minutes**

Members approved the minutes of the June 29, 2009 meeting as presented.

**4. Statistics and Updates**

A. M. White asked staff to clarify the stats

B. G. Fontenot reported that the Public Authority and the Union completed negotiations, the Union members ratified the agreement, and the MOU goes to the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday.

**5. Budget and Legislative Update and Advocacy**

A. M. Humphrey distributed a four-page legislation update and reviewed several of the items.

- B. G. Fontenot and M. Humphrey updated the members on the outcome of the State budget.

Program	Final Budget/Current Status
MSSP	No reductions
Linkages	State funding eliminated effective September 30. Sonoma County has received bridge funding from the Board of Supervisors and Area Agency on Aging. Staff is seeking other funding. There will be a loss of services to clients 18-59 years of age.
Caregiver Resource Centers	70% state funding reduction
Senior Brown Bag Program	Program eliminated
Adult Day Health	Cut client usage to 3 days a week, but there is a court injunction at this time.
Alzheimer's Adult Day Care Program	Program eliminated, but there is a court injunction at this time

## 6. IHSS Program and Public Authority Changes

- A. Carol Rex reported on the changes to the IHSS Program

Program Change	Current Status
Functional Index (FI) score – Individuals with an FI score below 2 would be eliminated from IHSS, unless they have protective supervision or paramedical services.	Sonoma County is waiting for direction from the State
Functional Index (FI) score below 4 for domestic and	Sonoma County is waiting for

related services would lose those services	direction from the State
All new IHSS providers will be required to complete an enrollment form and go through an orientation	Sonoma County is waiting for direction from the State Proposed start date of November 1, 2009
The State requires that all new IHSS providers receive DOJ background checks, and the caregivers will need to pay (average cost is \$70). An appeal process will be put in place.	Sonoma County is waiting for the direction from the State Proposed start date of November 1, 2009 All existing providers by July 1, 2010
IHSS share of cost (SOC) buyout was eliminated effective October 1, 2009	The IHSS share of cost buy out was eliminated and affects about 180 clients
Time sheets are being reworked	By July 2011
The State will conduct targeted mailings to reduce fraud	The focus will be on categories of suspicious fraud, such as providers working 300+ hours
No paychecks will be sent to post office boxes (counties my authorize exceptions)	Sonoma County is waiting for direction from the state
Funding for additional Fraud Positions	The State will hire additional fraud investigators for IHSS

B. M. Humphrey reported on the changes to the IHSS Public Authority

State Action	Current Status
The State Budget Act reduced funding for public authorities by \$4.6 million	Public Authorities are waiting for the allocation from the State. California Association

(20%). The Governor line item vetoed an additional \$8.7 million for a total reduction of 57%.	of Public Authorities (CAPA) sent recommendations to the State. A final allocation is expected within the next week.
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M. Humphrey reported on specific anticipated changes to the IHSS Public Authority

- a) Suspend publication of the newsletter
- b) Suspend current training program
- c) Eliminate current vacant Registry position
- d) Possible elimination of 2-3 positions

## **7. Advisory Committee Work Plan – Brainstorming**

Ideas, suggestions, etc. included:

- A. Obtain public input on the IHSS and Public Authority cuts/changes and communicate issues, concerns, etc. to elected officials.
- B. Explore opportunities to continue caregiver training, utilizing existing resources, such as the videos; explore community partners for resources; use volunteers to publicize and remind caregivers for trainings.
- C. The Public Authority is not planning a Caregiver Recognition event this year.

## **8. Planning for Public Hearing**

Ideas, suggestions, etc. included:

- A. Have two public hearings, one for clients and one for caregivers, so that they can openly discuss their situations.
- B. Have the public hearings in a timely manner so that the Advisory Committee can forward comments to the Governor and Legislature on issues, concerns, solutions, etc.
- C. Plan for Public Hearing in February and use the input to help plan the rest of the year and feed concerns into legislative advocacy efforts.
- D. Include Legislators, Board of Supervisors
- E. Have a panel to discuss the implications of the changes

F. Include an opportunity for written comments in the Notice for the Public Hearing.

G. Include media outreach to publicize the Public Hearing

**9. Public Comments – None**

**10. Executive Committee Report**

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

**11. Nominating Committee**

R. Ruge and N. Hall will sit on the committee with G. Fontenot.

**12. Comments about Today's Video: "Hands-On Skills" and was too long to see the Meal Prep information.**

Three members viewed the video. They thought it was good, basic information, and want staff to make available to providers.

**13. Correspondence; Announcements & Community Meeting Reports**

A. Managed Medi-Cal takes effect October 1. Approximately 18% were auto-assigned, instead of the estimated 30%.

B. DSLC Tech Expo on October 16<sup>th</sup> from 12 – 6pm at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds Hall of Flowers

C. October 13 – Public meeting to comment on the Sonoma County Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Plan

**14. Agenda Topics for the October meeting, which will be held on Monday, October 26, 2009**

A. Finalize Public Hearing

B. Finalize Work Plan and Work Plan Calendar

C. Nomination of Officers

D. Regular Reports, including Statistics, Updates, Budget and Legislation

**15. Adjournment**

S. Gow adjourned the meeting at 2:50 p.m.

Submitted by Lorna Schreck, Secretary