

COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Minutes

June 15, 2016

Attendees: Denise Blockmon, Francisco Godoy, Deborah Hibbler, Antoinette Lopez-Coles, Stormaliza Powmacwizalord, Carolyn Rose, and Joe Samora

Absent: Kimberly Lathrop, and Leoma Lee

Staff & Guests: Suisan Boyle, Sandy Deutsch (DHHS), Deanna Jekayinfa (PA), Melissa Kinley (Caregiver), Gordon Marshall (Adult and Aging Commission), Auriel Palomar (InAlliance), Terisita Perez (caregiver), Rick Simonson (PA), Ryan Sullivan (Interpreter), Debbie Thompson (DHHS), Shalisa Turner (caregiver) and Kelly Wyatt (Interpreter),

I. Called to Order at 1:10 pm by Chair Joe Samora

II. Introductions

III. Consent Calendar

A. Agenda:

- a. April Agenda–Motion (Blockmon/Hibbler) to approve as written, unanimous vote.
- b. March Agenda –Motion (Blockmon/Rose) to approve as written, unanimous vote.

B. Minutes:

- a. April Minutes–Motion (Blockmon/Lopez-Coles) to approve as written, unanimous vote.
- b. March Minutes - Motion (Blockmon/Rose) to approve as written, unanimous vote.

C. Chair’s Report: None

IV. Reports

A. Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 2015- Not present

B. Adult and Aging Commission – Dr. Marshall Gordon: Spoke with Deborah Morrow about the Adult and Aging Commission. The commission wants to know what they could do to help with timely payment for IHSS services. Deborah wanted to know specifics about any providers who had not been receiving timesheets or paperwork on a timely basis. Deborah offered to attend the Adult and Aging Commission meeting to explain the changes and that IHSS is working

hard to make sure IHSS staff is working hard to make sure providers are being paid and recipients are being assisted.

C. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Senior and Adult Services, Sandy Deutsch, IHSS Supervisor - None

Debbi Thomson is now the new Division Chief for IHSS, Ruth Mckenzie and Jeannette Johnson are program managers who work directly under Debbi Thomson.

A request for an 8 new continuing social workers went to the Board of Supervisors on 6/14/16. The Fair Labor and Standards Act (FLSA) unit is staffed with 4 Social Workers, 1 Russian language Social Worker and 1 Supervisor. Also, 1 new Intake Social Worker and an additional Continuing Case Social Worker were approved.

Debbi Thomson – Senior and Adult Services Division Chief – Is attending the Adult and Aging Commission meetings - she provides a report but is not a member.

Once an IHSS timesheet is received at the Chico Processing Center, payment must be made within 10 days. If there is an error on the timesheet, the County IHSS office receives the erroneous timesheet information from the Chico Processing Center and has 24 hours to resolve. If the Chico payroll processing center is unable to resolve the erroneous timesheet, then a replacement timesheet will be issued to the provider.

Travel time claims will be submitted on the SOC255, the claim is to be turned in after timesheets have been paid. If someone has questions, contact the FSLA Unit. The violations letters mailed in May and June are still educational, actual violations are expected to be enforced beginning July 2016.

Types of Violations:

Recipient is authorized less than 40 hours a week but provider claims more than 40 hours per week.

A provider for a recipient with multiple providers claims more than 66 hours per week for all of their recipients.

A provider for a recipient with one provider claims more than 70.75 hours per week.

A provider submits a travel claim for more than 7 hours per week.

Providers can't exceed their recipient's maximum authorized weekly hours.

To calculate a recipient's weekly maximum, divide the recipient's total monthly hours by 4. A provider can only work a maximum of 66 hours for two or more recipients or a maximum of 70.75 hours when there is a one-to-one provider-recipient ratio.

283 hours per month is the maximum number of In-Home Supportive Services hours that can be authorized to a single recipient. If the recipient also has In-Home Operation waiver, then those additional hours will need to be provided by an additional provider. Violations for In-Home Operations (IHO) related hours are expected to begin in September.

There are exemptions for providers who have more than one recipient and live in the same home. For instance a recipient's medical condition requires provider live in the home and the recipient lives in an area with no other providers. If there are languages barriers for the recipient and an inadequate availability of providers who speak the recipient's language, an exemption may be granted. A provider who has a single recipient can claim up to 70.75 hours a week if the recipient has the maximum authorized hours (283). A provider who has multiple clients can only claim up to 66 per hours a week (if those clients combined have 66 hours per week). Contact the Department of Healthcare Services Case Manager about IHO questions, contact County IHSS FSLA line with questions about overtime, travel time or wait time.

D. Public Authority: Rick Simonson, Executive Director, IHSS Public Authority-

Effective June 17, 2016, IHSS will implement a telephone automated answering system. Many repetitive questions are asked of IHSS Public Authority staff; the phone answering system is expected to address those questions, allowing staff time to focus on other priorities.

The number of orientation attendees has continued to grow. In 2015 attendance rose by 12% over the prior year; and in 2014 orientation attendance rose by 18% over the prior year.

Effective July 1, 2016, all providers must have an unexpired, government-issued photo identification and Social Security Card to attend orientation. If a provider does not have all required documents, they will receive instructions and information toward how to prepare for orientation attendance.

The Registry Supervisor, Diane Gonzalez' last day with IHSS Public Authority is June 24, 2016. Diane has been with IHSS Public Authority for three years and will be returning to the Department of Human Assistance. The plan is that the vacant supervisor position will be converted back to a Human Services Supervisor, Master's Degree position. This change is part of the Executive Director's successor planning and will reopen the door for the IHSS Public Authority to have Social Worker Interns from California State University, Sacramento.

- V. Committee Matters – Deborah Hibbler – Supportive Life Conference – Large turnout of persons with disabilities as well as their support groups. Disability rights Speaker – Russell Lahman who wrote “Inside Out” was a keynote speaker. LA consumer, Brian O’Brien, brought attention to voting access for those with disabilities. The conference was a humbling experience.
- VI. California IHSS Consumer Alliance (CICA) Conference Call – CICA supports legislation to reinstate the Share of Cost Buyout. CICA suggested that Advisory Committee members reach out to non-participating Advisory Committees let them know conference calls are available and they would benefit by being involved. Legislation restoration of the previous 7% cuts is assured for next three years. CICA supports several proposals that the IHSS Coalition made, but none were supported in the adopted State budget. Consumer Peer Mentors can provide support to other consumers who may be entering the Long-Term Services and Supports system. Seniors are under-represented during the legislative process and should call legislators, or visit them as a group (there is power in numbers). Town Hall Meetings are in the planning stages.
- VII. New Business:
Motion (Blockmon/Lopez-Coles) to provide an additional contribution of \$250 to CICA, unanimous vote.
- Motion (Godoy/Hibbler) approved a payment of \$175.00 to Shelisha Turner for caregiver support provided to Stormaliza at the Supported Live Conference, unanimous vote.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Next meeting is /7/20/16 at 9750 Business Park Drive, Suite 104, Sacramento, CA 95827