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**STANISLAUS COUNTY
IHSS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
04/13/07**

Committee Members Present:

Jose Acosta	Rose Martin
Joan Blackwell	Mary Burch
Connie Muller	Linda White

Committee Members Absent:

*Kenny Brown	Dwight Bateman
*George Sharp	

IHSS & Link2Care Staff Present:

Maria Childers	Jeff Lambaren	Egon Stammler
Jennifer DeSanto		

**Advance notice given.*

OPENING REMARKS by Linda White

- Meeting called to order at 1:08 pm

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Kim Nevel from UDW reported they had a bus load of people go to the capital to protest SB782, the bill proposing to freeze wages for IHSS. The bill was defeated in the Assembly, and the UDW plans on having another bus go to the capital when this bill goes before the Senate.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

- March 9, 2007 minutes: Motion M/S/A to accept minutes, motion to accept made by Connie Muller, Mary Burch seconded, motion passed.

PUBLIC AUTHORITY

- Jeff Lambaren commented that a floral arrangement was sent to the family of Ora Scruggs from the Advisory Committee.



- On the 18th of April, the Public Authority will be getting new furniture in anticipation of additional staff. The phone lines will be re-configured on April 20th, which will affect our phone service. Voicemail is expected to remain active, but calls to the office will be interrupted. We expect to have the phones fully operational by Monday, April 23rd.
- The registry training was revised again, and is now from 10am to 4pm. Nutrition and Caregiver Stress were added as topics. We have received good feedback regarding the training and the CPR classes, providers are enjoying the information and training.
- Jeff did a demonstrative review of the Committee's website, showing areas of improvement that were needed. The last update for the committee was March 28, 2005. The county will be updating the overall website design, which will affect the committee site as well. A suggestion was made by Connie Muller to add a comment that there are vacancies on the committee. Kim Nevel from UDW suggested a link to the UDW website.
- Jeff reported that there was a change to the insurance coverage during open enrollment this year. Previously, prescription co-pays were \$20 for generic, and \$30 for brand name. Effective April 1, 2007, generic prescriptions were decreased to \$15, and brand name were increased to \$35.

CICA CONFERENCE

- No new information on the conference was available, and the committee members present were not planning to attend.

LEGISLATION

- Jeff reported on several pieces of legislation related to IHSS services. SB782, as mentioned earlier, was defeated by the Assembly and is expected to be defeated in the Senate.
- SB 867 is the Long Term Care Integration Pilot Project, and CAPA is supporting this legislation.
- AB1113 would eliminate the Medi-Cal sunset provision, and CAPA is supporting this legislation.
- AB459 would require providers to pay a fee for fingerprinting. Effective Jan. 1, the Public Authority is no longer charging providers for fingerprinting, so this no longer affects us. CAPA opposes this legislation.
- AB380 addresses the sustainable rates for MSSP – it is a funding mechanism for improvements. CAPA supports this legislation.
- SB426 would appoint a new deputy director at the Office of Emergency Services specifically to coordinate “functional needs”, essentially giving the disable a voice in the planning process for emergency conditions. The effects of the recent cold snaps and heat waves have made this a higher priority for government. CAPA supports this legislation.
- SB949 and SB489 both assist individuals if facilities (such as LTC) have to close down. It would allow for an easier transition, coordinating moves between facilities. CAPA supports this legislation.
- SB611 allows the assets of defendants in financial abuse cases to be frozen pending the outcome of the lawsuit. This allows for damages to be collected if the defendant is found guilty. CAPA supports this legislation.
- SB535 states that the Department of Public Health must establish a website to provide up-to-date information regarding long term care facilities. CAPA supports this legislation.
- AB238 would allow reading to the blind to be a paid IHSS task. CAPA supports this legislation.

GENERAL UPDATE

- Egon Stammer commented that the budget is tight this year, mentioning that as the year moves on, the county re-evaluates it's projected costs to actual, but it looks like funding will be tight for '07-'08.