



COMMUNITY SERVICES AGENCY

Christine C. Applegate
Director

251 E. Hackett Road
P.O. Box 42, Modesto, CA 95353-0042

Phone: 209.558.2500 Fax: 209.558.2558

**STANISLAUS COUNTY
IHSS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
5/09/08**

Committee Members Present:	Kenny Brown Joan Blackwell Mary Burch	Connie Muller Robbyn Foster Valerie Mitchell	Jose Acosta Marie Cochran
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Committee Members Absent: Jose Cisneros*

IHSS & Link2Care Staff Present:	Jeff Lambaren Jennifer DeSanto	Robert Taylor Egon Stammler	Maria Childers
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**Advance notice given.*

OPENING REMARKS by Chair Mary Burch

- Meeting called to order at 1:01 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Tamir from UDWA announced the union is coordinating a Capitol Action Day Event on May 15th to voice opposition to the IHSS cuts. UDWA has transportation available for anyone wishing to attend, and everyone is welcome. For more information, call 526-5274.
- Tamir also requested that UDWA be placed on the agenda as a standing item so they can share any events or issues. After discussion, the committee decided that any comments can be made during the public comment period if desired.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

- April 9, 2008 minutes: Motion M/S/A to accept minutes, motion to accept made by Connie Muller, Kenny Brown seconded, motion passed.

PUBLIC AUTHORITY

- The IHSS Report to the Community is being printed, and should be complete by the end of the month. The Report will be presented to the Board of Supervisors, then mailed to all Providers and Recipients on the IHSS Program. Committee members are welcome to attend the presentation to the Board.
- A State budget update was given. The deficit continues to increase. May 14th, a revision will come out from the Governor's office. In previous years, proposed cuts are sometimes dropped when the revision comes out, but that is not expected this year due to the large increases in deficits since the first proposal.



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

- AB2242 – This was originally the bill proposing to send out IHSS Notice of Actions with detailed explanations as to the changes in hours. It has been completely gutted and revised. It now allows for an exemption for healthcare licensure for certain health care plans (including city, county and unions). This bill would make the trusts operated by the unions would be exempt from licensure.
- AB1779 & AB2362 deal with security issues related to personal information. The first bill requires individuals whose information has been compromised to be notified within a reasonable amount of time. The second bill discusses the notification requirements (based on the first bill passing).
- US Senate Bill 2708 – The Caring for an Aging America Act of 2008. This bill provides a loan forgiveness plan for certain medical fields if they choose to specialize in gerontology for a specific number of years. They must commit to a minimum of two years, which would provide them with a \$35,000 “forgiveness” of loans. Practicing in gerontology for an additional two years would provide further “forgiveness” of loans. This also provides additional funding for a Workforce Advisory Panel for an Aging America to be formed, to look at healthcare and the aging population.

CAPITOL ACTION DAY

- Tamir spoke to this during public comment (see notes above). The committee can also arrange for their own transport. If committee funds are used to transport a member to the event, they are required to report back to the committee. Kenny asked Tamir if their transport will have wheelchair access. Tamir is unsure, as they are still working out the details. Kenny indicated he would like to attend. Mary and Robbyn indicated they are also planning on attending. The committee then discussed the typical agenda during an event of this type, which includes a march to the Capitol and meetings with Representatives.

REVIEW BYLAWS

- Previous members have requested permission to serve on the committee again, prompting a look at the bylaws. Kenny suggested a required break (approximately six months) by current members before allowing them to re-apply. Jeff noted this “break” would require re-application rather than re-appointment. Current membership requirements were reviewed. Discussion of appropriate procedures and options ensued. Some members preferred “unlimited reappointment”, others suggested members could re-apply. After much discussion, Mary requested this item be placed on the agenda for next month for further review. Connie requested that draft language of the proposed changes from both perspectives be brought to the next meeting.

MEDIA ASSIGNMENT

- At last month’s meeting, Jeff requested members write stories about how recipients and providers are impacted by the IHSS program. The purpose is to gain a personal perspective on the need for the program. Some members have turned in letters, but more are needed.

GENERAL UPDATE

- None.

Meeting adjourned @ 2:25 PM,
Jennifer DeSanto, Recorder