

In-Home Supportive Services  
IHSS Public Authority  
Santa Cruz County

Mission Statement

The mission of the IHSS Public Authority of Santa Cruz County is to enhance the availability and quality of In-Home Supportive Services; to give consumers and providers a voice in IHSS and Public Authority policy, program development and operations; to provide consumers with access to IHSS providers who meet consumers' service needs; and to provide services that support a positive and productive relationship between the consumer and provider.



Who Governs the  
IHSS Public Authority?

The IHSS Advisory Commission, made up of over 50% IHSS consumers, makes recommendations to the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors, which acts as the governing board for the IHSS Public Authority.

In-Home  
Supportive  
Services  
Public  
Authority  
Santa Cruz County



Resource Numbers

IHSS Public Authority:

(831) 454-4036

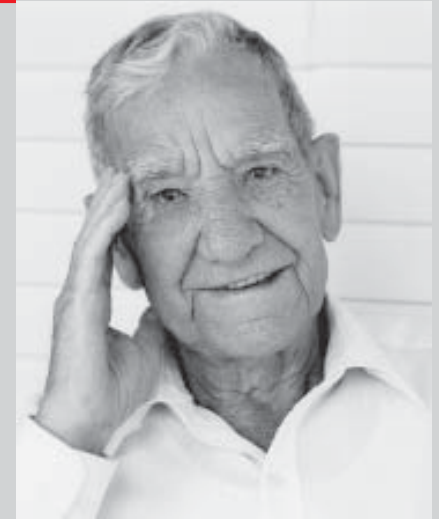
IHSS Program & Social Workers:

(831) 454-4101

(831) 763-8800

IHSS Advisory Commission:

(831) 454-4036





## In-Home Supportive Services IHSS Public Authority Santa Cruz County

Established by state law and local ordinance in 2001 by the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors, the IHSS Public Authority is responsible for specific tasks to help consumers and providers of In-Home Supportive Services in our county.

### IHSS Advisory Commission

An eleven-member, volunteer Advisory Commission meets monthly to make IHSS program recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. Meetings are public, and IHSS consumers are invited to join the Commission, which must consist of 50% of more consumers or past consumers of in-home care. Home care providers are also represented.



### What does the IHSS Public Authority do?

- Operates a registry of available IHSS independent home care providers.
- Provides lists of screened providers to consumers to interview.
- Helps IHSS consumers conduct interviews to choose a provider.
- Provides orientation sessions for new IHSS providers.
- Offers information and training for IHSS consumers on how to hire and supervise providers.
- Provides information to IHSS providers on local training programs in health care professions.
- Assists both consumers and providers to resolve conflicts.
- Acts as employer of record of all independent IHSS providers for collective bargaining purposes.

### What is IHSS?

The IHSS Program helps elderly, blind and disabled people to remain in their own homes when they are not able to fully care for themselves or handle routine household tasks.

The program pays for a wide variety of services - household chores and personal care - enabling the person to live safely in her or his own home, while encouraging independence and self-reliance where possible. IHSS is an alternative to out-of-home care in institutions.

### How do I apply for IHSS?

Call the Santa Cruz County IHSS Program and ask to speak with a social worker. All services are bilingual.

Santa Cruz - (831) 454-4101  
Watsonville - (831) 763-8800

