



County of Santa Cruz

IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES PUBLIC AUTHORITY

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IHSS ADVISORY COMMISSION MINUTES

DATE: Friday, May 5, 2006
TIME: 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
PLACE: CareerWorks – Sunroom, 1040 Emeline Avenue, Santa Cruz
PRESENT: Foster Andersen, Consumer Roger E. McKowan, Consumer
Bil McMullen, Consumer Michael Molesky, Consumer
Charles Stone, Commission on Disabilities
EXCUSED: None
ABSENT: Rose Marie Barker, Provider; Sandra Seeger, Consumer,
STAFF: Sara Paz-Nethercutt, Human Resources Agency
GUESTS: Charles Levine, Karina Aragon, Sonia Laracuente, Jodi Capitola-Duran, Don Allegri and Patricia Lopez, HRA

- 1. CALL TO ORDER, AGENDA REVIEW & APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The Chair, Michael Molesky, called the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m. Introductions were made. No quorum was established.
- 2. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Charles Stone announced that the Reel Work 2006 Labor Film Festival took place in Santa Cruz and they had between 30-45 people present. Sara Paz-Nethercutt announced the new Union representative with Local 415 Sonia Laracuente. Emeline off ramp closure will occur at the end of May. Don Allegri announced the different recognition events in May: National nurses week; Elder and Dependent Adult abuse prevention month (a signed proclamation by the Board Supervisors was circulated to acknowledge this). Jodi Capitola-Duran, new MSSP supervisor, was introduced. Foster Andersen announced that the event that took place two weeks ago “Day on the Sky” was a success. They had 35 volunteer pilots, jet and helicopters with over 700 people attending the event. He also announced the first art show reception by young artists that will take place at the Santa Cruz Art League on May 13 from 12-3pm. Michael Molesky announced the “Spring in your step” the annual Seniors Council fair celebrating seniors & healthy lifestyles on 5/23/06 from 9am-2pm at Holy Cross Hall.
- 3. CORRESPONDENCE:** The Chair circulated correspondence the Commission has received.
- 4. IHSS GENERAL OPERATIONS REPORT:** Don Allegri reported that QA is updating the annual work plan that the State requires. The State will provide a training for all IHSS workers later in May on several aspects of QA and IHSS operations. This is the 2nd phase of what was done in the fall to make sure that all county IHSS workers in the state are familiar with

expectations that are now required by QA operations. Sara Paz-Nethercutt reported that QA provides quarterly reports to the state in regards to activities and desk reviews that were completed. The annual work plan for 06-07 will be submitted June 1st and the state will be visiting QA, early June.

On June 1st there will be changes in terms of how a consumer's share of cost can be met. Starting that month, the consumer will be able to meet a share of cost obligation by paying at a clinic or pharmacy or other MediCal service vendor. Any unmet amount will be applied to the payment to the IHSS provider at the end of the first IHSS pay period each month. Letters from the state will be going out in a week or two to all consumers and providers to explain the consumer's obligation to pay the provider or pharmacy/clinic. Given the complexity of this change, the department is anticipating calls to IHSS, fiscal and to eligibility workers who determine the share of cost. Sara Paz-Nethercutt stated that she will include this information at the PA orientations. Michael Molesky suggested to also have this information available on the PA web.

5. IHSS PUBLIC AUTHORITY:

- A. **SNS Registry Status Report:** Sara Paz-Nethercutt reported that the program has 76 active individual providers. The program recruited 26 new providers for the month of March. They are conducting outreach and marketing for the San Lorenzo Valley community. No South County providers are needed at this time. Providers will be encouraged to attend the Career Centers Job Fair. The job fair is held once per month in Capitola.
- B. **Program Activities Updates:** Sara Paz-Nethercutt reported that the program continues to provide monthly orientations and is receiving good feed back from the providers. Sara circulated a copy of the Internet usage report from the PA website. The report demonstrated that the category on "How to become a provider" and "Calendar of events" had the most hits. Roger McKowan suggested to share these reports on a monthly basis.
- C. **Provider Training Consortium:** Sara Paz-Nethercutt reported that she met with Debora Bone, Director of the Stroke Center, about provider trainings. A proposal for conducting a series of trainings for providers is expected later in May. Sara has also been networking with Suzanne Chonette, an instructor at the Watsonville/Aptos Adult School, who will also submit a proposal about caregiver trainings. More to come in the upcoming meetings.
- D. **2006 Forum Update:** Sara Paz-Nethercutt asked the commission members to determine the location and day for the forum. The members decided to have the forum at the Simpkins Center on September 20, 2006 from 10-1pm (**now changed to Sept. 13, same time, due to facility availability and scheduling issues**). The panelists for the public forum will include IHSS commissioners, Cecilia Espinola, IHSS staff, PA staff, Union representative, SNS and Alliance. The guest list will include available elected officials, all consumers and providers, Alliance rep, Union, SNS, Commission on Disabilities, Seniors Commission, LTC Commissions, and an invitation to the Board of Supervisors. Media outreach will also occur. Sara circulated a work plan for the forum. Don suggested a focus on how the IHSS system works, such as how to obtain a provider, who is the employer, basic questions about IHSS. Michael Molesky suggested having a table available with information for the public.

6. **IHSS Advisory Commission Vacancies-New Commissioner packet:** Michael Molesky announced that Norm Hagen resigned and that the Seniors Commission recommended Charles Levine to fill the vacancy. Katherine Patterson-Valdez is interested as the representative from the Long Term Care Interagency Commission. Sara Paz-Nethercutt put together a new commissioner packet which includes bi-laws, roster and other useful information.
7. **ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**
 - A. Continue discussing the share of cost letter
 - B. Training consortium update
 - C. Continue planning for the community forum
8. **NEXT MEETING: Friday, June 2, 2006, 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**
Human Resources Agency
1040 Emeline Avenue, Career Works – Sunroom
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
9. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.