



County of Santa Cruz

IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES PUBLIC AUTHORITY

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IHSS ADVISORY COMMISSION MINUTES

DATE: Friday, May 2, 2008
TIME: 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
PLACE: CareerWorks – Sunroom, 1040 Emeline Avenue, Santa Cruz
PRESENT: Michael Molesky, Consumer Foster Andersen, Consumer
Charles Stone, Comm. on Disabilities Patti Shevlin, Provider
Ricardo Dalessandro, Consumer Charles Levine, Seniors Commission
Toni L. Cassista, Consumer
EXCUSED: None
ABSENT: Catherine Patterson-Valdez, LTCIC, Zachary Woodford, Consumer
STAFF: Sara Paz-Nethercutt, Human Services Department
GUESTS: Anatalia Avila, Provider, Carmen Sanchez, Provider, Rae Ellen Leonard, Consumer,
Francie Newfield, Marivel Castillo and Raquel Verdía, HSD

- 1. CALL TO ORDER, AGENDA REVIEW & APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The Chair, Michael Molesky, called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. A quorum was established. The April minutes were approved. *(Levine/Stone) MSP*
- 2. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Commissioner Toni Cassista would like to explore consumer resources, in particular where can consumers go to advocate on how things are handled within our agency.

Marivel Castillo announced that Del Mar Caregiver Resource Center has free workshops in English and Spanish for care providers. Registration is required. The flyer was distributed and is posted in the PA website and will also be distributed at the bi-monthly PA orientations.

Sara Paz-Nethercutt announced that she received an email from the Benefits Services Division explaining that the Economic Stimulus money would not be counted as income or resources in the month of receipt for Medi-cal purposes.

Commissioner Michael Molesky announced a Senior Health Fair on Saturday, May 3 from 9-1:00 p.m. at Sutter Maternity & Surgery Center corner of Soquel Dr. and Chanticleer Ave.

Foster Anderson distributed a postcard with information on Young Artists Studio, they will be fundraising by hosting an art show. It will be on Saturday, May 10th at 526 Broadway. For more information, to buy raffle tickets & view prizes visit the Shared Adventures website.

- 3. CORRESPONDENCE:** The Chair circulated correspondence the Commission has received.

4. IHSS GENERAL OPERATIONS REPORT

- A. Program Activities Update:** Francie Newfield reported there isn't anything new in terms of operations in IHSS but there is concern for Adult Services programs regarding both the State and County budgets. This week there is advocacy activity to oppose reductions by the State to Adult Protective Services and Children Services. Francie distributed (APS) Talking Points to Commissioners who might be interested in contacting the Board of Supervisor members to encourage them to send an official letter to the Governor opposing the cuts. Right now in Santa Cruz County there are 3 APS Social Workers and 1 vacancy that has not been filled. Board of Supervisors meeting schedule was distributed so Commissioners can mark their calendars for Budget Hearings in June. More specific dates/times to follow.
- B. Quality Assurance Update –** Sara Paz-Nethercutt distributed a copy of the final version of the QA survey, English on one side and Spanish on the other. 10 Social Workers will each take 15 surveys & drop them off during their reassessment visits in the month of May. Surveys are also being sent to a random sampling of 200 consumers for a total of 350 surveys. This might be a way to find out if consumer needs are being met because of the type of questions that are being asked. The data of responses will be compiled as we receive them and shared with this Commission.

5. IHSS PUBLIC AUTHORITY:

- A. SNS Registry Status Report:** Sara Paz-Nethercutt reported the following provider/consumer match data for the month of March: SNS completed 7 days on new matches, 6 days on re-referrals, 22 days on open matches for a total of 28. There are 226 active providers in the registry. The SNS orientation packet that is given out to IHSS registry providers that go through the registry has been modified. The new packet was circulated for review by this Commission.

B. Program Activities Update:

Sara reported that the Union training center held an open house at the Union Hall, she doesn't have any information or details about it but they are proceeding with their own trainings here in Santa Cruz County.

Providers Anatalia Avila and Carmen Sanchez attended this training and reported out on it; trainings included "how to talk in public" & "how to become a reporter", trainings will be every other month, around 15 providers attended the training.

Sara also reported that the enrollment period for the Union Health Trust Fund has been extended until May 15th to allow more providers to enroll. Currently 299 providers enrolled. She will report back on the final numbers.

Sara distributed a calendar listing of all of the IHSS provider trainings that have been done in the past. She requested feedback from this Commission about trainings they might want to see in this next period. Commissioners discussed training & recommended Nutrition & a class on Sensitivity training on disabilities.

Chair Molesky had requested a website link be posted to the PA website for resources for providing care within your home as a provider. Sara wants to make the Commission aware that we are now

starting a 2nd page of links in the website. She circulated a listing of all the links and asked the Commissioners for some feedback.

Sara reported that the Solutions Summit is having a Caregiver training and Certification Action workgroup. She will attend the first meeting on May 19th at the Lifespan conference room on Frederick St. She will report back to the Commission. Meeting is open to the public but reservations are recommended due to room size. For more information call 688-0400 ext. 15.

Commissioner Michael Molesky distributed a flyer about LGBT Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group. It is designed to address caregiver issues as well as provide up-to-date information regarding Alzheimer's and other dementia. It also offers an opportunity to talk with others who are in similar situations about specific concerns and particular challenges faced by LGBT caregivers.

IHSS Provider guests presented a letter regarding a recent meeting with representatives from the regional office of SEIU 6434.

6. IHSS Advisory Commission

A. ACTION ITEM: 2008 Commission Workplan

The workplan has been completed and approved, it will be reviewed annually. *(Stone/Shevlin) MSP.*

B. Vacancies – 1 consumers, 1 provider

There is one consumer and one provider vacancy.

7. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDAS: A copy of the Bylaws was distributed. Recommended to Commissioners that they read & review for next meeting. Action item: Commission By-Laws; IHSS Consumer Advocacy; Workgroup newsletter

8. NEXT MEETING: Next meeting Friday, June 6, 2008, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. SUNROOM

9. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

(Minutes recorded by Raquel Verdia, edited and respectfully submitted by Sara Paz-Nethercutt, Sr. Analyst, IHSS Public Authority.)