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**Public Authority Advisory Board (PAAB) Meeting
January 4, 2018
1:30 PM- 3:00 PM
Maxwell Park Room , Eastmont Town Center
6955 Foothill Blvd, First Floor, Oakland, CA
Conference Call: 1-844-800-5000 Access Code: 898950
Minutes**

Agenda Items

Call to Order/Introductions (M. Rousey)

Meeting was called to order at 1:40 p.m. by M. Rousey

Members Present: Michelle Rousey, Maxine Johnson, Noel James

Agenda Additions and or Revisions: N. James motioned to approve the January 4, 2018 agenda with one correction, seconded by M. Johnson and passed unanimously.

Approval of Agenda (Action Items) – N. James motioned to approve the agenda from December 7, 2017, seconded by M. Johnson and passed unanimously.

Approval of October 12, 2017 and December 7, 2017 Minutes – N. James motioned to approve the Minutes from October 12, 2017 and December 7, 2017, seconded by M. Johnson and passed unanimously. There was no meeting in November 2017.

Phone: n/a

Excused:

Absent: Brian Larson and Owen Kent

Staff Present: Marcella. Velasquez, Hyun Kim, Artina Lim

Alameda County SSA: Glenn Wallace, Divison Director

Guests: Pamela Jacobs, Sandra Simon-Johnson

Adult & Aging Services Updates: (G. Wallace)

G. Wallace reported that the State of California will be sending letters to providers explaining how not to commit violations during the month of February. Since FLSA began, we have seen more violations in February than any other month. The reason is that February is a short month and many

Agenda Items

providers miscalculate the weekly hours. Last year, the State waived the violations but there will not be any grace period this year. The State's letter is in English only. However, the county will translate the letter in Chinese, Spanish and one other language. The third language will be determined and all letters will be sent out by the end of January.

This week, the State will also release policies on sick leave. The new sick leave policy will be effective during the summer.

The provider violations are as follows:

December 2017: 169-1st violations, 49-2nd violations, 13-3rd violations and 1-4th violation. In January 2018, 1 provider had his/her first violation and 1 provider had his/her second violation. First violations=warning, Second violation = training, Third violation= 3 month suspension, Fourth violation=1 year suspension. For Alameda county, 232 providers committed violations. R. Acampora asked if someone who received a fourth violation could self certify in the second year. The State has not given any direction yet.

IHSS recently hired three new program managers and two new social work supervisors. There are 25 social worker vacancies and no hiring freeze.

Fraud cases that were once investigated by DHCS (State Department of Health Care services) will now be handled by the county. M. Johnson stated that she once reported a fraud case to IHSS and nothing happened. G. Wallace explained that there was only one staff member in DHCS who investigated fraud reports from Alameda and multiple other counties, but it was overwhelming for that one person to handle all of the cases, hence many cases were not investigated. He encouraged everyone to call the fraud hotline for help.

PA Update

M. Velasquez reported that she and M. Rousey were participating in bargaining sessions with SEIU. Recommendations from the union will be presented to the Board of Supervisors. The outcome of these sessions is to achieve a contract. Details are confidential, but providers can contact the union for any questions. The Public Authority administers health benefits for IHSS providers, including COBRA. The Public Authority has been working with a particular vendor for the last five years and it is now in process of a new RFP. Next week there will be a bidders' conference. We anticipate that the new vendor will start in May or June 2018.

Agenda Items

Consumer Issues: N. James brought up the issue of Share of Cost (SOC). Many consumers who have SOC cannot afford to pay their providers, but still need help. We need to re-examine the calculations. M. Velasquez advised that consumers could speak to the Medi-Cal case workers to find out how to lower the costs. P. Jacobs asked about services for consumers who needed 24 hour care and whether or not IHSS could pay for therapy. What happened when consumers wanted more IHSS services but the State had no additional funds? M. Velasquez reminded everyone that IHSS did not provide 24 hour care and that other resources such as the CEI's PACE program might be an alternative for some. PACE requires a consumer to enroll and transfer hours to staff to manage. Once a consumer is accepted into PACE, he is no longer eligible for IHSS.

Recruitment Candidate Discussion: S. Simon-Johnson was excused while the rest of the Board discussed her candidacy. N. James motioned to approve S. Simon-Johnson for the position of Advocate to the PA Board. M. Johnson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. S. Simon-Johnson now has to go through the Board of Supervisors for confirmation.

Staff Reports/Updates/Training & Outreach: (R. Acampora, C. Morgan, H. Kim)

R. Acampora stated that the PA spent \$3,000 to upgrade the ACCESS database system to make it more stable. Staff can now run regular maintenance checks. Currently, all Registry providers must update monthly by speaking with a coordinator. In the future, we might be able to send text messages or emails to providers to remind them to call in.

The Registry will be discontinuing the Urgent Response program because it was underutilized. One reason was that consumers did not want to use their own hours for urgent care requests. In November and December we had three and one placement respectively. R. Acampora reassured everyone that the PA would still serve consumers who had urgent needs as we try to serve all recipients regardless of their need.

Training and Outreach. Please see report. H. Kim stated that the Public Authority was meeting its goals in terms of serving consumers and providers in

Agenda Items

its training sessions. A few months ago, staff launched an appreciation event that was successful. In the future, board members will be informed of upcoming events.

Operations: Please see report. 6,000 providers are covered under health benefits. M. Johnson asked about implementing retirement benefits for providers. M. Velasquez said that since we were in negotiations with SEIU she was not able to disclose any information about what might be included in the new contract.

Announcements of Chair: (M. Rousey)

- **CICA.** This is a statewide advisory group that meets once a month via a conference call. Meetings take place the third Wednesday of each month from 10:00 am to 11:00 am. M. Rousey motioned to add M. Johnson as a second representative to CICA. N. James seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. M. Rousey is the other member of the group.
- **Rotation of Chair.** In March 2018, the board will vote on the rotation of chairs.
- **Committee Assignments.** M. Rousey asked for volunteers to sit on the By-Laws committee. A meeting has been scheduled for January 8, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. M. Velasquez will send out invitations to all as well as copies of the current bylaws.
- **Olmstead:** This meeting will take place in February.

Program Committee/Updates. No committee meetings this past month.

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

Public Input: (Time Limit 3 min per speaker) (General Public)

Adjourn (action) N. James motioned to adjourn. M. Johnson seconded. Meeting ended at 3:05 p.m.

For information call (510) 777-4215