



6955 Foothill Blvd., 3rd Floor  
Oakland, CA 94605-2409  
phone (510) 577-3552  
fax (510) 577-3579  
www.ac-pa4ihss.org

## Advisory Committee on IHSS Meeting

6955 Foothill Blvd. Suite 300, Oakland, CA 94605

October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM

[Zoom Meeting https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84411087512](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84411087512)

Dial +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: **844 1108 7512**

---

## MINUTES

---

**Committee Members Present:** Sandra Johnson (*Chair*), Warren Cushman, Pamela Jacob, Shawn Costello

**Public Authority Staff Present:** Marcella Velasquez (*PA Executive Director*), Ashley Shahankary, Christine Morgan, Mitzi Richardson

**AAS/IHSS Staff Present:** Dani Coggins, Emily Vo, Saundra Pearson

**AAS/IHSS Staff Excused/Absent:** Faith M. Battles (*AAS Assistant Agency Director*), Everett Robinson

**Guest/Public Present:** Brenda Jackson (SEIU), Hannah Karpilow, Tom Yamaguchi, Michelle Rousey, Sheela Gunn-Cushman, Rafe Eric Biggs

### I. Call to Order & Introductions

Advisory Committee (AC) Chair Sandra Johnson called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm then followed by self-introductions.

### II. Approval of Agenda and Meeting Minutes

**A. Agenda Additions and/or Revisions** – Motion to approve the July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 agenda including the following addition:

- a. Findings to Continue Meeting by Teleconference. Staff Recommendation: Find that 1) the Advisory Committee on IHSS has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency, and 2) state or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing. This recommendation follows the 09/28/2021 County Board of Supervisors' adoption of the Health Care Services Agency Director's recommendation that the Board implement social distancing for its meetings. For the same reasons, the same rationale applies for the meetings of the Advisory Committee on IHSS and its committees.

- i. (Motioned) Warren Cushman
- ii. (Seconded) Pamela Jacob
- iii. No additions. Motion approved.

**B. Approval of Minutes** – Motion to approve the minutes of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 meeting as presented.

- a. (Motioned) Warren Cushman
- b. (Seconded) Pamela Jacob
- c. Motion approved.

### **C. Vote for 2022 Committee Chair – Motion to nominate Warren Cushman**

- a. Warren Accepted the nomination
- b. No other nominations were made
- c. Committee voted - 4 in favor (all 4 voting members)
- d. Motion approved. Warren will be Committee Chair effective January 2022.

### **III. Adult & Aging Services (AAS) Updates (M. Velasquez)**

#### **A. Upcoming Legislative impacts to IHSS Program**

- a. Expansion of Medi-Cal to Undocumented Adults aged 50 and over
- b. Elimination of the Medi-Cal Asset test over the next 2.5 years
- c. Permanent elimination of the 7% IHSS hours cut.
- d. Permanent EBU provider system has been funded. Must wait for CDSS to develop criteria before this is put in place.
- e. Long-Term Career Pathways for IHSS providers. Funding has been allocated for training for providers to develop a career pathway. CDSS is lead on this. They will be using a competitive process to select the trainers across the state. Any entity wishing to become a trainer will need to go through the process to seek approval.
  - i. Target for pilot is September 2022

#### **B. State and County Initiatives:**

- a. Minimum wage to go up to \$15.00 hour in 2022
- b. Sick leave increase scheduled for January 2022: providers will earn 24 hours (3 days) of sick leave
- c. Direct deposit: Effective 7/1/22, providers will need to enroll in direct deposit or pay card. No more paper checks!
- d. EVV revision needed. It was determined that California's system does not meet the requirement to track location at beginning and end of service. As a result, the budget included money to make the necessary changes to the EVV system. Note that providers who live with their Recipient are not required to complete the EVV fields on the timesheet.

#### **COVID-19 Updates**

- a. IHSS Social Workers will resume making field visits to Recipients in December for Reassessments.

## **IV. Public Authority (PA) Updates**

### **A. Registry Update (Saundra Pearson & Ashley Shahankary)**

- a. 843 Registry Providers
- b. Continuously trying to build our provider registry:
  - Sent Outreach emails to the agencies we had communication from past years. Shared our PA Registry Informational, Registry Application and Emergency Back-up Provider Flyer in hopes that they can refer some qualified individuals to our registry.
  - Sending recruitment Email and Text Blasts to providers regarding the PA Registry.
  - Focusing on the tri-valley area.
- c. Conducting outreach to re-establish our relationship with:
  - Lao Family Community Development
  - International Rescue Committee
  - La Familia
  - Hayward Adult School
  - Livermore Adult School
  - Alameda County Fremont Resource Center

### **B. Emergency Back-Up (Ashley Shahankary)**

- a. 4 referrals
  - 1 match

### **C. Provider Health Benefits Update (Christine Morgan)**

- a. Approximately 32 individuals took advantage of the COBRA ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) wherein they were able to receive up to six months of free COBRA between April and September 2021. Our overall number of providers covered by health benefits is steadily increasing each month and is currently at 5924 members for the month of October.

### **D. Training & Outreach Update (Saundra Pearson & Mitzi Richardson)**

- a. Mass notifications were sent out to boost enrollment for San Leandro Adult School's Homecare Worker Program's Spanish & English sections. We reached maximum enrollment for both sections. SL Adult School also has a "Ladders" document showing how students can advance from Homecare Workers to enter their CNA & LVN programs.

Trainings listed on the October calendar & updates on YTD (Jan – Sep) Training stats:

# of Trainings: 46

# of Providers attended trainings: 619

# of Recipients attended trainings: 130

## V. Recruitment

### A. Advisory Committee Members

1. Sandra Johnson and Pam Jacob term ends on 12/31/21
2. New applicants:
  - a. **Rafe Eric Biggs**, appointed by BOS. Will become voting member when Oath is complete
  - b. **Sylvia Stadmire** applied as Member (*Senior Advocate Position*). AC-IHSS Interview took place on July 15<sup>th</sup>.
    - i. Motion to approve Sylvia Stadmire October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021 meeting as presented.
      - a. (Motioned) Sandra Johnson
      - b. (Seconded) Pamela Jacob
      - c. All in favor. **Motion was approved.**
  - c. **Hannah Karpilow** applied as Member (*Non-Family Member Provider*) – Will set up interview with the Recruitment committee and the candidate.

## VI. Other Discussion Items

### A. CICA Membership Report and Additional Rep (Warren Cushman)

### B. SEIU Rep (Brenda Jackson)

- a. Report out by Brenda regarding SEIU 2015 preparing for Bargaining for new Contract for IHSS providers.

## VII. Action Items

- a. **Next Advisory Committee Meeting**
- b. Next meeting will be on **Thursday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022.**

## VIII. Public Input (Time Limit: 3 minutes per speaker)

No Public Speaker

## IX. Adjourn

Move to adjourn meeting.  
(Motioned) Warren Cushman  
(Seconded) Pamela Jacob  
Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:18 pm.