



**Sonoma County IHSS Public Authority  
Advisory Committee Meeting  
Minutes of October 26, 2015**

**Present:** Stan Gow, Chair  
Nancy Hall, Vice Chair  
Joann Keyston, Secretary  
Richard Ruge  
Jan Schiller  
Carol Taylor  
Sachiko Williams

**Staff:** Mike Humphrey – Manager, IHSS Public Authority  
Diane Kaljian - Director Adult & Aging Division  
Eric Glentzer - IHSS Section Manager  
Susan Sudduth, Secretary – Adult & Aging Division

**Guests:** Noreen Evans, Attorney  
Teri Ruggiero, Solano County IHSS Public Authority  
Nancy Schulz, Napa County IHSS Public Authority  
Dr. Lonny Lewis, Napa County IHSS Public Authority

**1. Call to Order& Introductions**

Gow called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

**2. CAPA Legislator of the Year Award former Senator Noreen Evans**

The California Association of Public Authorities honored former Senator Noreen Evans with the CAPA Legislator of the Year Award for 2011. Because of scheduling conflicts, Senator Evans was unable to accept the award at that time. Senator Evans was a supporter of IHSS during her years in the legislature and was instrumental in the second week of November being named as Home Care Week. Humphrey thanked her for her leadership and efforts on behalf of IHSS.

Ruggiero read a statement from Donna Brown, IHSS Solano County Advisory Committee Chair, thanking Evans for her service and congratulating her on her

award. Nancy Schulz, Dr. Lewis, and Diane Kaljian also spoke about Evans' compassion and care and thanked her for her advocacy on behalf of IHSS. Former Senator Evans spoke briefly about the past and present challenges facing in-home care.

### **3. Public Comment**

Lewis reported that the IHSS Stakeholders Advisory Committee held their first session. The thirteen appointees include consumers, providers, and union representatives. They are working on mission, vision, and values statements and will be electing officers. Their next meeting is January 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **4. Approval of Minutes – March 30, 2015:**

Hall/Keyston MSC - approved as submitted.

### **5. IHSS Program Updates**

Glentzer reported that, after a year of hiring and training, IHSS is now fully staffed. The focus has been on intake and reducing the average amount of time from four to two months from intake to implementation of service. The focus is also on making sure that clients are seeing social workers more timely.

The newly implemented web intake process focuses on professional referral sources. The phone line is also still available. The new Care Transitions Program focuses on an individual's transition to in-home care. IHSS is working towards a paperless case management system with document imaging that will allow a social worker access from anywhere.

### **6. Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) Update:**

Glentzer reported that after a lengthy legal process, US Supreme Court Chief Justice Roberts denied the request by the plaintiffs (National Home Care Association) to grant a Stay on implementation of overtime provisions for IHSS providers, pending the outcome of an appeal to the US Supreme Court. At the federal level, overtime, travel time and wait time provisions are scheduled to take effect on November 13. However, the Department of Labor announced that they do not plan to issue penalties for non-compliance until after December 31. The State has not yet announced their timeline for implementation.

Humphrey advised that the previous 7% reduction in hours was restored effective July 1.

## 7. Coordinated Care initiative

The Coordinated Care Initiative, also known as Cal MediConnect, is a pilot project in seven counties. It has been fully implemented in San Mateo County. Humphrey reported that the enrollment numbers have not been as high as it was hoped they would be. The state is considering extending the demonstration period. The goal of the initiative is to provide better-coordinated health care with cost savings.

## 8. IHSS Provider Training

- a. IHSS PA is collaborating with the Alzheimer's Association to provide an Alzheimer's related training for IHSS providers. The two-part class is scheduled for, January and there will be a Spanish version. IHSS will be planning similar future events.
- b. IHSS PA has been collaborating with West County Community Health Centers to help bolster the number of available IHSS providers for referral to clients in the lower Russian River area. The project also plans to provide training for IHSS providers in the Russian River area. West County Health Centers recently hired a coordinator to implement the project goals.

## 9. Statistics and Updates

- a. Glentzer reported that there were over 5500 clients for IHSS in September. New referrals average 170 each month. The bulk of Sonoma County care recipients are age eighteen to sixty-four, but there is a significant number age eighty or more. Providers had over 545,000 paid hours in September.
- b. **Provider Enrollment:** For August 138 Department of Justice background check packets were mailed to applicant providers; 151 applicants attended orientation, and 151 were deemed eligible providers.
- c. **Registry Activity:** Consumer requests for July were 143 and for August 142. There were 58 client/caregiver matches for July and 59 for August. For July there were 63 eligible providers and 59 for August.
- d. **PA Benefits:** Paid hours for health benefits have increased from 393 in July to 411 in August.

## **10. Budget and Legislative Update**

- a. Budget – The adopted State budget included funding to restore the 7% reduction in client hours. The budget also included funding for FLSA overtime and related changes, if and when the Federal government mandates the implementation of such.
- b. Legislation –Governor Brown recently vetoed a significant number of IHSS related legislation, citing the need to contain costs of the program as there has been no agreement for permanent funding to restore the 7% reduction in hours.

## **11. Correspondence, Announcements & Community Meetings:**

- Keyston and Gow attended the Tech Expo.
- Gow assisted with the Sonoma County Fair Senior Day outreach.
- Keyston is on the Human Rights Committee for the Sonoma Development Center.
- Santa Rosa Junior College will conduct a CNA Health Aid Class and Resource Fair.

## **12. Public Comment**

None

## **13. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15.

Submitted by Susan Sudduth, Secretary