



County of Santa Cruz

IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES PUBLIC AUTHORITY

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IHSS Advisory Commission

Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday, September 27, 2024
Time: 1:00PM to 3:00PM
Location: 1400 Emeline AVE, Building K, Room 206. Santa Cruz, CA
Present: Christine Kiebert-Boss (Consumer, Rep of Family Member), Becky Taylor (Commission on Disabilities, Vice-Chair), Michael Molesky (Consumer), Linda Campbell (Consumer), Maria Arreola (Provider), Lois Sones (Seniors Commission), Stephanie Auld (Consumer)
Excused: Foster Andersen (Consumer), Jozette Irgang (Consumer)
Absent: None
Guests: Cindy James (IHSS Social Work Supervisor), Lisa Stanford (IHSS Social Work Supervisor)
Staff: Juan Magaña (Staff)

Agenda

1. Call to Order
 - a. Meeting called to order at 1:06PM; a quorum was present.
2. Roll Call
3. Agenda Review
 - a. Agenda reviewed; the following changes were made:
 - i. Item 5 (Public Comment) moved to follow item # 3 (Agenda Review)
 - ii. Item 8.e (IHSS Program and Public Authority Updates) removed due to no updates provided to staff.
4. Public Comment
 - a. No public comments were made.
5. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - i. August 23, 2024, Meeting
 1. The following corrections to the August 23, 2024 minutes were made:
 - a. Added comments made by commissioner Auld to item 6. Comments are reflected in approved minutes under section 6.ii.

- b. Added additional information provided by commissioner Taylor under section 7.a Comments are reflected under section 7.a.i.
 - b. Commission Vacancies
 - i. One (1) – Consumer Representative
 - ii. One (1) – Provider Representative
 - c. Motion to approved consent agenda with amended 08/23/2024 meeting minutes was called by:
 - i. First/Second: Taylor/Campbell
 - ii. Ayes: Kiebert-Boss, Taylor, Campbell, Arreola, Auld
 - iii. Nays: None
 - iv. Abstain: Molesky
 - v. Absent: Anderson, Irgang, Sones (not present for vote)
 - vi. Motion passed.
- 6. Guest Speaker: IHSS Eligibility Overview– Cindy James, Lisa Stanford
 - a. Cindy and Lisa presented information on:
 - i. Purpose of IHSS
 - ii. Eligibility
 - iii. IHSS Services & Determination of Hours
 - iv. Protective Supervision Services
 - v. Client Responsibilities
 - vi. IHSS Contact Information
 - b. See attached presentation for additional information.
 - c. Comments/Questions from commissioners
 - i. Molesky inquired on the status of undocumented individuals.
 - 1. Response: they are eligible to receive IHSS services. Undocumented providers cannot provide services though as they must have legal authority to work in the US.
 - ii. Auld inquired if IHSS pays for a provider to advocate for their consumer during medical appointments? Or will IHSS pay for the provider to accompany the consumer to a medical appointment if they do not feel safe going on their own?
 - 1. Response: No, IHSS will pay for the provider to accompany the consumer only if they need assistance with an IHSS task (transfers, bowel and bladder care are some examples). Recommendation is to contact congressman to see if they can enact legislation to include it as an IHSS covered service.
- 7. Regular Agenda – Action Items
 - a. Meeting Location - IHSS Advisory Commission

- i. Kiebert-Boss informed that since commissioner Anderson and Molesky (left meeting at 1:45pm) were not present, she would recommend this item be moved to the October meeting.
- ii. Motion to move to the October meeting called by:
 1. First/Second: Taylor/Campbell
 2. Ayes: Kiebert-Boss, Taylor, Campbell, Arreola, Sones, Auld
 3. Nays: None
 4. Absent: Anderson, Irgang, Molesky
 5. Motion passed.

8. Regular Agenda – Information Items

a. Information Sharing

i. Announcements

1. Kiebert-Boss announced that Live Oak Refillery (Brommer and 17th) opened. The store buys items in bulk and refills them at a lower cost to customers (shampoo and hand soaps, for example). The store will hire people with disabilities. A flyer will be sent to staff so it can be distributed to everyone.
2. Auld mentioned that after attending the CICA conference call, she called 2-1-1 to see if there were any Independent Living Centers in Santa Cruz County – there are none. She also spent the day calling different agencies to see what options are available for consumers to find caregivers – they all responded to contact IHSS. Auld mentioned that she recently spoke to a consumer who was told that there were no providers on the registry.
 - a. Staff clarified that it's more likely that there are no providers that are coming up as available and are able to meet the needs of the consumer (perform services authorized, willing to work in the consumer's area, and other consumer preferences).

ii. Topics & Speakers

1. Tentative Schedule
 - a. October 25 – Meggie Pina, Diversity Center
 - b. November 22 - Janie Whiteford, CICA
 - c. 2025 - Adult Protective Services – staff confirmed that this presentation will be in February.
2. Staff also announced that in addition to these presenters, there will be a presentation on the Registry in January and a presentation from Golden PACE Health in March.
3. Auld suggested a presentation on IHSS Fraud.
 - a. Staff informed that since IHSS is a Medi-Cal program, all fraud referrals are sent to the Department of Health Care

Services in Sacramento, and they would need to see if we can get someone to come down to do a presentation.

- b. Staff suggested a presentation from our Fiscal team – they could go over the information that is presented at the new provider orientation – timecards, check-in/check-out requirements, etc.
 - i. The commission agreed this would be a good topic. Staff to schedule a presentation for April.

b. Discussion:

i. Commission Goals

- 1. Kiebert-Boss informed that at the last meeting, commissioner Auld wanted the commission to discuss its goals. She has instructed staff to send the 2022-2023 Biennial report to the commission members and asked that they review it prior to the October meeting. At that meeting, the commission will work on prioritizing the goals.
- 2. The commission stated that this is a good idea.
- 3. Staff to include goal prioritization as an agenda item for the October meeting.

ii. Program Stats

- 1. Kiebert-Boss mentioned that at the last meeting, commissioner Auld wanted to discuss stats. Kiebert-Boss asked if she could clarify what type of stats she was looking for, for what purpose, and how will the commission use them?
 - a. Auld responded the following: stats are critical for evaluating goals. We need to know how IHSS is performing at all times. At the last CICA call, they reported that there were 10,000 consumers approved for IHSS who did not have caregivers. Do we know how many consumers in Santa Cruz County do not have caregivers? The CDSS website has very non-specific data about both providers and consumers. But do we know what the turnover rate is?
- 2. The commission discussed this matter and decided to add this item to the October meeting in order to determine what the next steps would be to obtain program stats – possible options are establishing a subcommittee or developing a survey for consumers in Santa Cruz County.

c. IHSS Consumers

- i. Auld inquired on what type of support is provided to consumers when they are having problems with their caregiver?
 - 1. Staff reported that the IHSS Social Worker can send a referral to the Public Authority for conflict resolution. The Public Authority Social Worker would do their best to try to mediate the conflict and attempt to preserve the employer/employee relationship. When

that relationship cannot be preserved, the Social Worker will help the consumer with finding a new caregiver. Staff informed that the Public Authority will be doing a presentation in January on the services they provide as part of the registry, which includes conflict resolution.

d. IHSS Providers

- i. Arreola reported that she has been getting calls from providers stating that their consumers are asking them to do tasks that are not authorized or covered by IHSS, like gardening. She recommended that they review the services authorized for the consumer.

1. Staff informed that the provider will receive a SOC 2271 at time of hire and any time a change in hours has occurred. The SOC 2271 lists the number of hours as well as services that have been authorized by the Social Worker. The provider can also ask the consumer to view a copy of the most recent Notice of Action which will provide the same information. The provider should only perform the tasks that are listed on those forms.

~~e. IHSS Program and Public Authority Updates~~

9. Report Outs

a. Legislative

- i. No report out.

b. CICA Conference Calls

- i. Kiebert-Boss reported that the CICA call was about the Aging and Disability Resource Connection – she researched if there were any in Santa Cruz County and she did not find any. The prior meeting was all about CalAIM.

c. Commission on Disabilities

- i. Taylor reported that the Commission on Disabilities formed a subcommittee to discuss holding a meeting with multiple commissions.

d. Seniors Commission

- i. Sones reported that the Seniors commission meets every other month, so there was no meeting this month.

10. Future Agenda Items

- a. Staff reported that this item will be a standing item in order to allow commissioners an opportunity to propose future agenda items for the commission.

11. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned 2:46PM.

Next Regular Meeting: October 25, 2024, 1:00PM – 3:00PM @ 1400 Emeline AVE, Room 206, Santa Cruz.

Minutes approved by commission on October 25, 2024; submitted to Board of Supervisors on October 28, 2024.