



# County of Santa Cruz

**IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES PUBLIC AUTHORITY**  
18 W. Beach Street, Watsonville, CA; P.O. Box 1300, Santa Cruz, CA 95061  
(831) 454-4036 FAX: (831) 763-8906

## Notice of Public Meeting and Agenda

### IHSS Advisory Commission

**Date:** Friday, September 23, 2022  
**Time:** 1:00PM to 3:00PM

Pursuant to AB 361 and Cal. Gov. Code section 54953, due to the ongoing COVID 19 state of emergency and upon recommendation of the County Health Officer, public meetings of the IHSS Advisory Commission will be conducted in remote format. Members of the public can attend virtually by teleconference.

**PLEASE DIAL-IN TO THE TELECONFERENCE USING THE INFORMATION LISTED BELOW:**

#### TELECONFERENCE INFORMATION

United States: (831) 454-2222  
Phone Conference ID: 403 329 57#

**FOR QUESTIONS REGARDING THE REMOTE MEETING PROCESS, PLEASE CONTACT THE PUBLIC AUTHORITY AT (831) 454-4036 OR [JUAN.MAGANA@SANTACRUZCOUNTY.US](mailto:JUAN.MAGANA@SANTACRUZCOUNTY.US)**

#### Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Agenda Review
4. Consent Agenda
  - a. Approval of Meeting Minutes
    - i. August 26, 2022 Meeting.....Page 3.
  - b. Correspondence
    - i. Commission on Disabilities
      1. June 9, 2022 Meeting .....Page 9.
  - c. Commission Vacancies
    - i. Two (2) – Consumer Representatives
    - ii. One (1) – Representative of an organization that advocates for people with disabilities or seniors

The County of Santa Cruz complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. This meeting room is accessible for people with disabilities. If you wish to discuss reasonable modifications or accommodations, please call 454-4036 prior to the meeting. For the comfort of those with allergies and chemical sensitivities, please do not wear perfume or scented products to the meeting.

5. Oral Communications and Announcements: *Anyone wishing to address the commission on any item within the jurisdiction of the Commission and not listed on the agenda may do so at this time. Comments are limited to three (3) minutes in duration.*
6. Regular Agenda – Action Items
  - a. IHSS Advisory Commission Meeting Location (AB 361).....Page 11.
7. Regular Agenda – Information Items
  - a. Updates/Housekeeping
    - i. Reminders from the Chair
    - ii. Topics & Speakers
  - b. IHSS Provider Trainings.....Page 13.
  - c. Annual Report Review.....Page 14.
  - d. Provider Concerns
  - e. IHSS Program Updates
  - f. Public Authority Updates
  - g. Subcommittee Reports
    - i. Legislative/Advocacy (Molesky)
    - ii. Website (Taylor/Andersen)
    - iii. CICA Conference Calls (Campbell)
8. Adjournment

**Next Regular Meeting:** October 28, 2022, 1:00PM – 3:00PM



# County of Santa Cruz

## IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES PUBLIC AUTHORITY

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(831) 454-4036 FAX: (831) 763-8906

### IHSS Advisory Commission

#### Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday, August 26, 2022  
Time: 1:00PM to 3:00PM  
Location: Remote Meeting  
Present: Michael Molesky (Consumer, Chair), Lois Sones (Seniors Commission, Vice-Chair), Linda Campbell (Consumer), Patricia Fohrman (Provider), Foster Andersen (Consumer), Jozett Irgang (Consumer), Maria Arreola (Provider)  
Excused: Becky Taylor (Consumer)  
Absent: None  
Guests: Max Umney (Analyst, Human Services Department), Diana Morales-Figueroa (ALTC Office Assistant III)  
Staff: Juan Magaña (IHSS Public Authority)

#### Agenda

1. Call to Order
  - a. Meeting called to order a 1:06PM; a quorum was present
2. Roll Call
3. Agenda Review
  - a. Removed item 8.d (IHSS Program Updates)
4. Consent Agenda
  - a. Approval of Meeting Minutes
    - i. May 27, 2022 Meeting
  - b. Correspondence
    - i. Commission on Disabilities
      1. March 10, 2022 Meeting
      2. April 14, 2022 Meeting
    - ii. Seniors Commission
      1. February 15, 2022 Meeting
      2. April 19, 2022 Meeting
  - c. Commission Vacancies
    - i. Two (2) – Consumer Representatives

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- ii. One (1) – Representative of an organization that advocates for people with disabilities or seniors
  - d. Motion to approve consent agenda called by:
    - i. First/Second: Irgang/Sones
    - ii. Ayes: Molesky, Sones, Andersen, Campbell, Arreola, Irgang
    - iii. Noes: None
    - iv. Abstain: Fohrman (not present for vote)
- 5. Oral Communications and Announcements:
  - a. No oral communications or announcements were made
- 6. Master Shelter Plan Presentation – Max Umney
  - a. Umney presented the following information regarding the County's Master Shelter Plan:
    - i. Local governments have the responsibility to provide shelter to permanent and temporary residents affected by disasters within the County of Santa Cruz. This duty is delegated to the Human Services Department (HSD). Over the past year, HSD and its partner agencies have been engaged to update the county's emergency shelter plan.
    - ii. An overview of how emergency shelters are opened was provided to the commission.
    - iii. One area of the plan that was identified as an area of improvement was how to serve people in our community who have Access and Functional Needs (AFN). Specifically, the areas surrounding outreach, transportation, and support for the AFN population.
      - 1. Outreach – individuals with AFN may have barriers to receiving information about disasters, therefore it is crucial to make a concerted effort to get them the information they need in a timely manner. The county does not have a comprehensive list of all AFN individuals residing in the county. During an emergency, a call center is established for people to call in, or email, to the county to obtain more info on the emergency or let the county know if they need support. Staff of the Adult and Long-Term Care division will conduct outreach to IHSS and APS clients in affected areas, but this is a small subset of the AFN population that may reside in a disaster area,
      - 2. Transportation – During the CZU fire, transportation challenges arose for people who did not have reliable access to transportation or people who had mobility impairments. To address these challenges, the department is working with Santa Cruz Metro and ParaCruz to make sure they can support us during an emergency. A plan has been developed where, in the event of an evacuation, ParaCruz will stage vehicles near the area and are set up for transporting individuals with AFN as well as medical equipment and service animals.
      - 3. Support – prior versions of the shelter plan had minimal language on how to support the AFN population that came to the shelters. To

address this, they looked at what other counties have done, specifically Los Angeles County, and determined that most people with AFN can be accommodated within congregate shelters. A functional assessment team would be deployed to determine if the potential emergency shelters are ADA compliant. Congregate shelters would normally be staffed with minimal medical personnel. However, if there is a large number people who have medical needs that cannot be supported by the medical staff, they can work with the Health Services Agency to coordinate medical support via medical doctors and nurses.

- iv. Umney informed the commission that he came to this commission to obtain feedback on the AFN section of the Master Shelter Plan. Umney requested that the commission members review the plan, specifically focusing on the areas that would impact the AFN population and send any comments or questions to staff.
  1. Molesky suggested to speak to Clay Kempf at the Seniors Council as he worked with him in the past on a similar project. Also informed that the Volunteer Center would be a good source as they also have worked on an emergency packet in the past. PG& E and the Red Cross are also good resources
  2. Sones mentioned that the one area she had was with the medical needs as some people are diabetics and need insulin injections, but it appears it has been covered in the plan.
  3. Fohrman inquired if the CERT team is considered in the Master Shelter Plan.
    - a. Umney responded that it is not called out specifically in the plan, but it is covered in the general emergency response plan for the county.
  4. Molesky added that the Central California Alliance for Health has disaster protocols for staff and if clients are at the shelters, hopefully staff from the Alliance would be at one of the shelters to assist.
- b. A reminder to the commission to send commends and feedback on the Master Shelter Plan to staff so it can be compiled and forwarded to Umney.

## 7. Regular Agenda – Action Items

- a. IHSS Advisory Commission Meeting Location (AB 361)
  - i. The commission reviewed the AB 361 findings and determined the need to continue holding meetings remotely.
  - ii. Motion to approve the AB 361 findings and hold the next IHSS Advisory Commission meeting remotely was called by:
    1. First/Second: Sones/Campbell
    2. Ayes: Molesky, Sones, Andersen, Campbell, Irgang, Arreola, Fohrman
    3. Noes: None
    4. Abstain: None
  - iii. Motion carried unanimously

## 8. Regular Agenda – Information Items

### a. Updates/Housekeeping

#### i. Reminders from the Chair

1. This item was not discussed

#### ii. Topics & Speakers

1. Molesky inquired on getting a speaker from the Volunteer Center as he would like to get updates on what is happening with the services they were offering during COVID.

- a. Staff reported that an email was sent to the Volunteer Center but a response has not been received. A follow up email will be sent.

2. Molesky also asked to invite the union to attend the commission meetings.

### b. Medi-Cal Asset Limit Increase

- i. Staff reported that the Medi-Cal property limit increased on July 1<sup>st</sup> 2022; for a household of one, the countable property limit is now \$130,000 and increases by \$65,000 per each additional household member. Prior to July 1<sup>st</sup> 2022, the property limit was \$2,000 for a household of one.

- ii. Included in the meeting packet is the Medi-Cal Information Notice which provides this information.

### c. Provider Concerns

- i. Molesky reminded the commission that this item is on the agenda for providers to bring up any concerns they may have.

- ii. No provider concerns reported.

### ~~d. IHSS Program Updates~~

### e. Public Authority Updates

- i. Staff provided the following Public Authority updates:

#### 1. Back-Up Provider System

- a. The state has put forth a new program requirement for all counties to have a permanent back-up provider system in place to take effect October 1<sup>st</sup> 2022.

- b. Previously we had an emergency back-up system that a consumer could access if their provider was not able to care for them due to a COVID related reason. The back-up provider who took on the assignment would receive a \$2.00 per hour wage supplement.

- c. The new back-up provider system is no longer tied to COVID. Instead, it is to provide urgent need for provided for backup supportive services related to personal care that cannot be met by an existing provider or if there is an urgent need that cannot be met because the recipient is

transitioning to home based care and does not yet have an identified provider.

- d. There is a limit in hours a recipient can access, 80 hours per fiscal year, however they do allow an additional 80 hours to be granted as needed for severely impaired recipients, potentially 160 hours a recipient can access during a fiscal year. Our fiscal year starts July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- e. Providers do have to be referred out by Public Authority and be part of the registry in order to be referred out as a back-up provider.
- f. The Public Authority is revising its policies and procedures for this new back-up system and will begin recruitment within the registry for providers to take on back-up assignments. Some recruitment ideas include flyers and emails to registry providers.

f. Subcommittee Reports

i. Legislative/Advocacy (Molesky)

1. Molesky provided the following information

- a. Reverend Ryan Althaus reached out to Molesky to discuss bringing back the Caregiver Café at the McPherson Center.
- b. Meals on wheels is losing their kitchen in Live Oak, a new property was purchased by Mid Pen Housing and Molesky met with them to discuss the possibility of co-locating the Meals on Wheels kitchen in their property.
- c. Dominican Health and Wellness Center on 21430 E.Cliff DR is holding a support group for those with disabilities on the second Tuesday of every month from 3PM-5PM.

ii. Website (Taylor/Andersen)

- 1. Anderson reported that the enrollment page is not clear and providers don't know where to look on the webpage.
  - a. Staff reported that the main Public Authority page has a section for providers and the first bullet states "Enroll as a Provider". When a potential provider calls to get instructions, Public Authority staff direct them to this page and instruct them to click on the "Enroll as a Provider" link. Once the new page loads, step-by-step instructions are listed on how to enroll.

iii. CICA Conference Calls (Campbell)

- 1. Campbell reported that this month's speaker was Lisa Hayes, chair of the State Independent Living Council (SLIC). The SLICV's vision is to influence policy and access to service delivery for individuals with disabilities in California, they create policy and system changes for independent living. There are 28 independent living centers in California.

9. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned at 2:34PM

**Next Regular Meeting:** September 23, 2022, 1:00PM – 3:00PM

Minutes recorded by: Diana Morales-Figueroa, Office Assistant III

DRAFT





# Santa Cruz County Commission on Disabilities

701 Ocean Street, Room 510, Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
P: (831) 454-2772 F: (831) 454-2411 TTY/TDD 711  
commissions@santacruzcounty.us  
www.scccod.net

## Meeting Minutes

DATE: Thursday, June 9, 2022  
TIME: 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM  
LOCATION: Remote Meeting  
PRESENT: John Daugherty (*1<sup>st</sup> District*), Stacie Grijalva (*2<sup>nd</sup> District*), Fay Levinson (*2<sup>nd</sup> District*), Becky Taylor (*3<sup>rd</sup> District*), Richard Gubash (*3<sup>rd</sup> District*), Brenda Gutierrez Baeza (*Vice Chair - 4<sup>th</sup> District*), Michael Leimbach (*4<sup>th</sup> District*), David Molina (*Chair - 5<sup>th</sup> District*), Lynn Stipes (*5<sup>th</sup> District*)  
EXCUSED: None  
ABSENT: None  
STAFF: Kaite McGrew (*Commissions Manager*)  
GUESTS: Brian Buhrow (*National Federation of the Blind - California Board Member*) and John Heylin were present.

1. Call to Order  
Meeting convened at 12:32 PM.
2. Roll Call
3. Agenda Review
4. Approve May 11, 2022 Minutes  
**Motion to Approve Minutes as written**  
Motion/Second: Molina/Daugherty  
**Motion passed unanimously.**
5. Public Comment  
Stipes arrived.
6. New/Continuing Business:
  - 6.1. Access Technology Affordability Act Overview (H.R. 431/S. 212)  
Buhrow summarized elements of these bills providing a tax refund for people who purchase non-medical, access technology (e.g., screen readers, magnification technology, equipment designed to address learning or cognitive disabilities, etc.). The Senate's Access Board will determine allowable technologies. State legislators Panetta, Eschew, Feinstein, and Padilla all co-sponsored the legislation. Commission discussed allowable limits and eligibility. Buhrow emphasized the absence of a means-based test associated with eligibility for these tax refunds to minimize barriers. Legislative Priorities Subcommittee will consider this information and bring their recommendation back to a future meeting.

6.2. Consider Voter Accessibility Committee Representation

Molina appointed Levinson to represent the Commission on the County's Voter Accessibility Committee. Other members the Commission's subcommittee will attend in her place when she is unable to attend.

Gutierrez-Baeza left the meeting.

Gubash left the meeting.

6.3. Consider Condolences for Robert Ludlow

As an attorney, Ludlow advocated for accessibility and disability rights.

**Motion authorizing Daugherty, Molina, and Staff to send a letter of condolence to Mr. Ludlow's family pending the availability of contact information.**

Motion/Second: Molina/Leimbach

**Motion passed unanimously.**

6.4. Assembly Bill 361 Statement of Findings

**Motion to approve statement of findings authorizing the Commission to hold their next meeting remotely if allowable under the provisions of AB 361**

Motion/Second: Molina/Leimbach

**Motion passed unanimously.**

7. Commission Reports:

7.1. History Report:

7.1.1. Commission History Project:

Daugherty reported that a recent screening of Crip Camp further solidified the importance of compiling a Commission history. Staff will continue to work with the VIP program to obtain an intern.

8. Ad Hoc Subcommittee Updates:

8.1. Recreation Subcommittee

Staff reported that Simpkins has hired a swim instructor qualified to work with students who have adaptive swim needs. It is unclear how prospective students will differentiate between instructors. Staff will continue to work with Simpkins to obtain additional information.

8.2. Legislation Subcommittee: No Report

9. Staff Report

Staff reported that quantitative and qualitative *Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Employee Survey* data analysis has been completed and aggregate results will be shared at a future meeting.

10. Emerging Matters:

Commission congratulated Stipes on her retirement. Commissioners were invited to consult with Mr. Heylin (son of former Commissioner and disability rights advocate Peter Heylin) regarding outreach and community engagement for disability advisory bodies.

11. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 1:39 PM.

Submitted by: Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Manager*



# County of Santa Cruz

## IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION

18 W. Beach Street, Watsonville, CA 95076  
P.O. Box 1300, Santa Cruz, CA 95061  
(831) 454-4036 FAX: (831) 763-8906  
MICHAEL MOLESKY, CHAIR

### SANTA CRUZ COUNTY IHSS ADVISORY COMMISSION'S FINDINGS PURSUANT TO ASSEMBLY BILL 361 AUTHORIZING TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS AS A RESULT OF THE CONTINUING COVID-19 PANDEMIC STATE OF EMERGENCY AND HEALTH OFFICER RECOMMENDATION FOR SOCIAL DISTANCING

**WHEREAS**, this IHSS Advisory Commission is a legislative body under the Brown Act as defined under Cal. Gov. Code section 54952(b) and Santa Cruz County Code Section 2.38.110; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill 361 ("AB 361"), urgency legislation effective immediately, that amended Government Code section 54953 to permit legislative bodies subject to the Brown Act to continue to meet under modified teleconferencing rules provided that they comply with specific requirements set forth in the statute; and,

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to AB 361 and Cal. Gov. Code section 54953(e)(1)(A), a legislative body may meet under the modified teleconferencing rules during a proclaimed state of emergency, and where local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom issued a Proclamation of State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and which remains in effect; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 30, 2021, Santa Cruz County Public Health Officer Dr. Gail Newel strongly recommended that legislative bodies in Santa Cruz County continue to engage in physical/social distancing by meeting via teleconference as allowed by AB 361 and confirmed that she will regularly review and reconsider this recommendation and notify the public when it is no longer recommended; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to AB 361 and Cal. Gov. Code section 54953(e)(3), within 30 days of the date the legislative body first holding a teleconferenced meeting under the modified rules, and every 30 days thereafter, a legislative body can continue to hold such teleconference meetings provided it has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency and determined either that the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person or that local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 22, 2021, the IHSS Advisory Commission held its initial teleconference meeting under AB 361; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 23, 2022, the IHSS Advisory Commission held a subsequent teleconference meeting under AB 361; and

**WHEREAS**, the IHSS Advisory Commission has reconsidered the circumstances of the current state of emergency and finds that the COVID-19 pandemic continues to directly impact the ability of members of the public to participate safely in person and further finds that the Santa Cruz County Public Health Officer continues to recommend measures to promote social distancing; and

**WHEREAS**, in the interest of public health and safety, and due to the emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19, the IHSS Advisory Commission deems it necessary to utilize the modified teleconferencing rules set forth in AB 361;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the IHSS Advisory Commission makes the following findings by a majority vote:

**Section 1.** The foregoing recitals are true and correct, and adopted as findings of the IHSS Advisory Commission.

**Section 2.** Effective immediately, and for the next 30 days, the IHSS Advisory Commission will meet via teleconference as authorized under AB 361 and Government Code section 54953(e)(3).

**Section 3.** No later than thirty (30) days from making today's findings, or at the next scheduled meeting, the Commission will reconsider the circumstances of the COVID-19 state of emergency and, if necessary, adopt subsequent findings to continue holding teleconference meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e)(3).

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the IHSS Advisory Commission in Santa Cruz, State of California, this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of September, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair, IHSS Advisory Commission

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Department Staff

Approved as to Form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Office of the County Counsel

# IHSS Provider Training

## 2022-2023



### **Abuse and Mandated Reporting**

August 17 @ 1 P.M.

Register here: <https://bit.ly/IHSSAug17>

### **Depression & Anxiety**

September 21 @ 1 P.M.

Register here: <https://bit.ly/IHSSSept21>

### **The Aging Process**

October 19 @ 1 P.M.

Register here: <https://bit.ly/IHSSOct19>

### **Home Safety & Fall Prevention**

November 16 @ 1 P.M.

Register here: <https://bit.ly/IHSSNov16>

### **Introduction to Palliative Care**

December 15 @ 1 P.M.

Register here: <https://bit.ly/IHSSDec15>

### **Person-Centered Care**

January 18 @ 1 P.M.

Register here: <https://bit.ly/IHSSJan18>

### **Dementia Care Challenges: Anxiety, Anger & Agitation**

February 15 @ 1 P.M.

Register here: <https://bit.ly/IHSSFeb15>

### **Dementia Care Challenges: Wandering, Sleep & Sundowning**

March 15 @ 1 P.M.

Register here: <https://bit.ly/IHSSMar15>

### **Dementia Care Challenges: Paranoia, Hallucinations & Delusions**

April 19 @ 1 P.M.

Register here: <https://bit.ly/IHSSApril19>

### **Dementia Care Challenges: Dressing, Bathing & Oral Care**

May 17 @ 1 P.M.

Register here: <https://bit.ly/IHSSMay17>



# **IHSS Advisory Commission**

## **Report - 2022**

2020 - 2021

### **Role of the Commission**

The In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Advisory Commission is a state-mandated advisory board established under AB 1682. The powers and duties of the IHSS Advisory Commission, as defined by Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors' Ordinance #4655, Chapter 2.124.070 of the Santa Cruz County Code, are to:

1. Serve in an advisory capacity to the Board of Supervisors, as the governing board of the IHSS Public Authority, and any administrative body in the County related to the delivery and administration of the IHSS;
2. Review policies related to the delivery of IHSS and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding any proposed changes;
3. Review pending State and Federal legislation that may impact the IHSS program, consumers, and/or providers and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding any proposed changes;
4. Stay informed and educated on IHSS and Public Authority issues;
5. Provide a forum for consumers and providers of personal assistance services, advocates and other interested parties to participate in IHSS policy and program development.

### **Meetings dates, time and location**

The IHSS Advisory Commission meets on the fourth Friday of every month from 1:00 – 3:00. The commission does not meet in the months of July and December. Due to the onset of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) health pandemic, the commission met virtually via teleconference for the majority of its meetings in 2020 and 2021.

### **Commission Structure**

The Commission comprises no more than 11 members, of which a majority must be current or former users of personal assistance services paid for through public or private funds. The remaining slots include: two current for former providers of In-Home Supportive Services; and three at-large members from any of the following: a representative of an organization that advocates for people with disabilities or seniors and/or a representative who also concurrently holds a seat on either the Santa Cruz County Seniors Commission or the Commission on Disabilities.

Currently, there are three vacancies that the commission is seeking to fill. These vacancies are comprised of two former or current users of personal assistance services and one representative of an organization that advocates for people with disabilities or seniors.

### **Commission staff**

The IHSS Advisory Commission is staffed by the Public Authority, under the auspices of the Human Services Department. Staff from the IHSS Program attend each meeting.

### **Attendance 2020 and 2021**

The attendance charts for 2020 and 2021 are attached.

### **Goals and Accomplishments**

During 2020 and 2021, the IHSS Advisory Commission:

1. Hosted the following guest speakers: Sam Trevino from the Health Project Center and Janie Whiteford from the California IHSS Consumer Alliance.
2. Welcomed one new commission member: Patricia Fohrman (IHSS care provider).
3. Renewed membership with the California IHSS Consumer Alliance (CICA).
4. Kept informed of state budget issues by California Association of Public Authorities advocates.
5. Received updates of the State Olmstead Advisory Board as relevant.
6. Assisted in the planning of the Caring Community Summit in March of 2020.
7. Collaborated with the Health Project Center to develop training curriculum for IHSS care providers.
8. Recommended changes to County Code to better define the membership criteria for at-large representatives and aligned its bylaws to the recommended County Code language.
9. Monitored the impact of the COVID-19 health pandemic on IHSS recipients and care providers.
10. Transitioned from in-person meetings to remote meetings because of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.
11. Kept informed on the Master Plan on Aging (MPA).
12. Collaborated with the IHSS program to provide facemasks to IHSS care providers.
13. Advocated for COVID-19 vaccines for care providers.
14. Successfully implemented disaster protocols due to local fire and flood disasters.
15. Continued providing ongoing input to IHSS Public Authority staff for posting relevant and educational information on the IHSS Public Authority website.
16. Shared information with Seniors Commission and Commissions on Disabilities.
17. Subcommittees monitored activity in the areas of interest to IHSS recipients and providers.
18. Performed ongoing work to fill the remaining vacancies in the commission.

## **Future Goals**

The goals of the IHSS Advisory Commission include the following:

1. Participate in Public Authority Registry recruitment efforts. Particularly providers willing to work in Santa Cruz and San Lorenzo Valley and/or willing and able to provide care for high needs clients.
2. Monitor the success of the provider enrollment process.
3. Promote ongoing education of IHSS for consumers, care providers and the community.
4. Work collaboratively with the Health Project Center to develop training curriculum for IHSS providers.
5. Participate in the development of enhanced supports for IHSS recipients and care providers.
6. Continue to monitor payroll activity to assure providers are being paid timely.
7. Monitor the ongoing use of the Electronic Visit Verification requirement for IHSS and its impact on consumers and providers.
8. Increase collaboration with the local labor organization.
9. Network with community-based organizations and other commissions to solve issues that affect IHSS and related services.
10. Hold IHSS Advisory Commission meetings in south and mid-county locations.
11. Work collaboratively with partner agencies and commissions on disaster planning and emergency preparedness.
12. Monitor the impact of the CZU fire and its aftermath on consumers and providers and make recommendations as necessary.
13. Identify community resources that IHSS consumers and providers can access in emergency situations.
14. When allowable under public health recommendations, the commission will seek to resume the Caring Community Summit.
15. Resume new commissioner orientation and conduct annual refreshers for existing commissioners.
16. Advocate for fall prevention and supports in the home of all recipients of IHSS.

## **Recommendations**

Recommendations from the IHSS Advisory Commission include the following:

1. Advocate for mixed housing with caregivers to support integrated caregiver and community planning.
2. Advocate for a living wage for caregivers so they can remain in our community.
3. Advocate for the county to develop a comprehensive emergency preparedness program.



IHSS Advisory Commission  
2020-2021 Report

4. Explore the feasibility of an agency-based (Contract Mode) IHSS system in Santa Cruz County.
5. Advocate for the needs of IHSS recipients and caregivers to be included in plans when developing the MPA.
6. Connect with Central California Alliance for Health to help coordinate services under the California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) program.

**2020 Attendance**

<b>IHSS Advisory Commission 2020 Attendance Roster</b>											
<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Jun</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sep</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>
Lois Sones	Seniors Commission	X	X	C	C	X	X	C	X	C	X
Vacant	Commission on Disabilities	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Vacant	Rep. of Commission or Staff	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Foster Andersen	Consumer	X	X	C	C	X	X	C	X	C	X
Michael Molesky	Consumer	X	X	C	C	X	X	C	X	C	X
Linda Campbell	Consumer	X	E	C	C	X	X	C	X	C	X
Becky Taylor	Consumer	X	X	C	C	X	X	C	E	C	X
Jozett Irgang	Consumer	X	X	C	C	X	A	C	X	C	X
Vacant	Consumer	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maria Arreola	Provider	E	X	C	C	X	A	C	X	C	X
Patricia Howes	Provider	E	R								
Patricia Fohrman	Provider	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	X	C	X	C	E

Key:

- X = Present
- E = Excused
- A = Absent
- R = Resigned
- n/a = Not yet appointed
- C = meeting cancelled

**2021 Attendance**

<b>IHSS Advisory Commission 2021 Attendance Roster</b>											
<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Jun</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sep</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>
Lois Sones	Seniors Commission	X	E	X	X	X	X	E	X	X	X
Becky Taylor	Commission on Disabilities	n/a	n/a	n/a	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Vacant	Rep. of Commission or Staff	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Foster Andersen	Consumer	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	A	X	X
Michael Molesky	Consumer	X	E	X	X	X	E	X	X	X	X
Linda Campbell	Consumer	X	E	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Becky Taylor	Consumer	X	X	X	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Jozett Irgang	Consumer	X	X	X	E	A	E	X	A	X	X
Vacant	Consumer				n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Vacant	Consumer	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maria Arreola	Provider	E	X	X	X	X	X	E	X	X	E
Patricia Fohrman	Provider	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	A	X	X

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