



CICA California In-Home Supportive Services Consumer Alliance

State Wide Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, August 17, 2011
Via Conference Call

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Cindy Calderon at 10:05AM.

2. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Members Present

Heidi Aharonian, Orange County
Pat Anthony, Butte County
Charlie Bloom, Humboldt County
Cindy Calderon, Humboldt County
Felice Connelly, Riverside County
Tim Davis, Mariposa County
Tim Gifford, Placer County
Jenilyn Jimenez, San Diego County
Jane Kardas, Mendocino County
Paul Lehman, Fresno County
Chris Otero, Los Angeles County
William Reed, Placer County
Andy Rossoff, Mendocino County
Bud Sayles, San Diego County
Shirley Stacy, Solano County
Lawrence Zynda, San Diego County
Janie Whiteford, Santa Clara County
Shannon Williams

CICA Support Staff

Amy Olsen, Administrator

CICA Guest

Tristan Brown, CUHW
Karen Williams, Bet Tzedek Legal Services

3. Welcome and Introductions

Cindy Calderon opened up the meeting and encouraged everyone to visit CICA's website (www.cicaihss.org) and link to CICA's Facebook page. Please like the page so we can build visitors.

4. IHSS State Budget News, Tristan Brown

Tristan began with a budget recap and talk about Senate Bill 930. This year's budget was historic – passed by deadline. Governor proposed 8% cut to the IHSS program to offset some of the losses and inability to gain support of 2009 tax increases. Instead of across the board cuts, stakeholder groups came up with alternatives. First is requirement for recipients to obtain a certification from licensed health care professional declaring that without IHSS that recipient is at risk of being placed in out of home care. Requires medical sign off for IHSS. Second is they compelled the state to look for funding for community first option. This increases amount of funding to assist states to provide care. Trailer bill for California to direct CMS to talk to DHS in California and we apply for that money. Third is establishing pilot program to provide automated medication dispensing machines in consumer's home. This will bring in a certain amount of money and has a trigger point which we are hopeful we will meet. Last point is a waiver for personal care services. This is a step backward. If we get below \$3million, we will see some across the board cuts to IHSS. It's really important that we get to that \$3M number. Medical certification form is in effect. ACL's have gone out. There have been some issues in counties. Looks like this will be here to stay. Urging people to get appointments asap to get certification done.

SB930, Senator Evans – Reverses fingerprinting on timesheets and P.O. Box delivery restrictions. Working on getting this bill through. Things are looking good at moving it through.

5. Unmet Need, Karen Williams

Karen is a paralegal in Los Angeles and assists IHSS recipients in raising their hours. IHSS calculates cuts in IHSS that are supposed to come from unmet need first. Most people don't have unmet need. In the past it's never been an issue because there was plenty of hours available. Now that's not the case. If service needs go over 283 hours, then there is an unmet need. If there is an unmet need, it can go in the blank area where there is a section for comments. Protected supervision benefits are not counted as unmet need. It states in regulations that needs assessment needs to include unmet need for IHSS. All counties need to assess for unmet need. Karen said that it's her guess that hardly anyone has unmet need written in their file because it hasn't been normally assessed. Consumers should ask if this is in their file and ask for reassessment.

6. Other Business/County Happenings

Bud Sayles asked if any of the AC's are going to their BOS's to reestablish them as a Public Authority AC – is anyone making an official change with their governing body?

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:55AM. The next regularly scheduled CICA statewide meeting will take place Wednesday, September 21 at 10:00AM.

Submitted by Amy Olsen