



CICA California In-Home Supportive Services Consumer Alliance

State Wide Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, August 20, 2008
Via Conference Call

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Janie Whiteford at 10:05AM.

2. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Members Present

Eric Anderson, Orange County
Shirley and Tiffany Adams, Orange County
Dwight Benner, Riverside County
Felice Connolly, Riverside County
Tracy Herold, Tulare County
Christine Loomis, Riverside County
Eldon Luce, Placer County
Yanira Olivas, Imperial County
Terry Scuzzel, Marin County
John Stevenson, San Diego County
Michelle Stewart, Sacramento County
Sandy Varga, Los Angeles County
Janie Whiteford, Santa Clara County
Lawrence Zynda, San Diego County

CICA Support Staff

Amy Terhorst, Empire Events

CICA Guest

Karen Keeslar, Legislative Consultant

3. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Karen Keeslar provided an update on current bills in the legislator that pertain to the IHSS Program. Specific highlights include:

- AB851 – California Working Disabled Program. Held in Senate Appropriations Committee.
- AB2038 – Held in suspense file to be reintroduced next year.
- AB2263 – Held in Appropriations Committee.
- AB2716 – Paid sick days for IHSS workers. Held on suspense list; dead until next year.
- FB1198 – Durable Medical Equipment for people not on MediCal. Insurance companies can not have caps that are different than what they have otherwise on their policy and have to provide coverage for durable medical equipment.

Karen Keeslar reported that the Governor has said he would veto any bills that reach his desk before the budget reaches his desk and there is no end in sight regarding the budget. It is

important that people take the alerts that have been coming out seriously and call their legislators. She emphasized that the Republicans are not budging and there is concern that Democrats might concede on issues. Karen Keeslar will send Janie Whiteford a list of regional coordinators in each county for county specific legislative action. Janie Whiteford said that there are two coalitions that are currently very active in the state – IHSS Coalition and Together for California’s Future. TCF has a much broader scope than just IHSS.

4. CONFERENCE UPDATE

Amy Terhorst gave an update on conference progress. Registration brochures are completed and being mailed out to Public Authorities for distribution to Advisory Committee and Governing Board members. A direct mail registration brochure is being mailed to everyone in the current CICA database. Everyone is encouraged to sign up for the conference and reserve their hotel rooms as soon as possible. The conference agenda was reviewed.

5. CFL FROM CDSS

Janie Whiteford delivered an update on the County Fiscal Letter on Advisory Committee Expenditures issued by CDSS. The allowable expenses include CICA membership and CICA conference registration and related expenses. CICA had recommended additional items which did not get included in the letter. Janie Whiteford did receive a letter of explanation from Eva Lopez which will be sent to CICA members. Janie Whiteford recommended that if an Advisory Committee is doing something that it feels is an allowable expense and the County says it is not, than the Advisory Committee should go to the state to decide if it is an allowable expense or not. She recommended that Advisory Committee members work within their County as best they can to make the system work. A response letter from CICA will be sent and posted on the CICA website.

6. CICA MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Janie Whiteford reported that membership invoices will be sent out next week. Please fill out the form completely and include any Advisory Committee members and contact information.

7. COUNTY ADVISORY COMMITTEE VISITS

Janie Whiteford offered the opportunity to come to any Advisory Committees or Governing Boards who would like an overview of CICA’s mission and services.

8. UNION ISSUES

Janie Whiteford explained that SEIU is in some turmoil. She said that it is important for Advisory Committees to stay current on the issue because it can affect providers and consumers in counties that have SEIU as their union. Sandy Varga announced that there had been a series of articles in the Los Angeles Times regarding Tryon Freeman, President of the SEIU. The US Department of Labor is investigating the Los Angeles local with the possibility of putting them in receivership and conducting a new election. Janie Whiteford noted that this creates a perception with legislators of profiteering on IHSS and hurts the consumer. She said that the plan at the conference is to have pre-created questions for the union panel and then open up for questions from attendees.

9. ELECTION OF CICA OFFICERS

Janie Whiteford announced that the election of new CICA officers will take place at the November conference. Only paid CICA members are eligible to vote. Advisory Committees should nominate someone from their committee to actually do the voting at the conference and discuss nominees ahead of time. CICA will distribute a ballot with a description of nominees. CICA will be opening nominations within the next few weeks with submissions due by October 1. One vote is allowed per Advisory Committee or Governing Board. The entire membership can vote on any position. If an absentee ballot is needed, please let CICA know. Janie Whiteford also reported that the CICA Executive Committee voted to create an Associate Membership level for members who would like to stay involved in CICA but are termed out or otherwise no longer serving on an Advisory Committee or Governing Board. Associate members are not eligible to become officers.

10. COUNTY HAPPENINGS

Felice Connolly announced they Riverside County has a new Public Authority Director – Anna Martinez. She also announced that Riverside County is planning a November caregiver celebration in honor of November being National Caregiver Recognition Month. Terry Scuzzel announced that Madilyn Kellner is the new Marin Public Authority Director. Janie Whiteford announced that Santa Clara County Advisory Committee is conducting a long range planning retreat this month.

11. ADJOURNEMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:10AM. The next regularly scheduled CICA statewide meeting will take place Wednesday, September 17 at 10:00AM.

Submitted by Amy Terhorst