

**California IHSS Consumer Alliance (CICA)**  
**Accomplishments**  
**July 1, 2016 to May 31, 2017**

CICA has provided 11 State-wide phone calls sharing information on activities and events happening in Sacramento and through California Association of Public Authorities (CAPA). This was done in cooperation with CAPA Executive Director Karen Keesler.

All State-wide calls provided a main topic (s):

- **July 20, 2016:** [Information on Timesheet/Payroll Audit & Perry Vermilyea sharing information about San Francisco's Mentorship program.](#)
- **August 17, 2016:** [Bills being introduced in the State Legislation and Jewel Lee, from Riverside County shared information about its "Provider Back-up System."](#)
- **September 21, 2016:** [Minimum wage increase schedule and Kristina Bas Hamilton talked about the Electronic Visit Verification Passed in by Congress.](#)
- **October 18, 2016:** [Information shared about Electronic Visit Verification \(EVV\) more from previous month and Sue Ouichocho, Systems & Administration Branch, Adult Programs, CDSS: In efforts to modify CIMPS II to support SB 855 & 873, Advanced Pay has gone to a semi-monthly reconciliation process.](#)
- **November 16, 2016:** [Christina Mills, Executive Director of California Foundation of Independent Living Center shared information on Digital Access Project: Increasing Online Opportunities and Access for People with Disabilities.](#)
- **December 21, 2016:** [More information shared about the passage of HR 4626 Electronic Visit Verification and discussion about the FLSA and the violations commented throughout the State. Deborah Doctor retired and shared her experience and thought for future work.](#)
- **January 18, 2017:** [Debbi Thompson, Chief Deputy Director, Adult Protection Services introduced to herself and talked about future of IHSS. Karen provided information on the MOE, CCI and statewide budget for IHSS.](#)
- **February 15, 2017:** [Carrie Stone Fisher, Deputy Executive Director|CalABLE Board, Office of State Treasurer John](#)

Chiang: Carrie shared a little about herself and the personal connection with the work being done in regards to the “California Achieving a Better Life Experience Act Board (CalABLE).”

- **March 15, 2017:** Monika Vega, Senior Outreach Coordinator, Harbage Consulting – talked about Cal- Medi-Connect and CCI. Karen presented information about the information proposed and passed by the Assembly Budget committee in regard to exemptions, weekly hours and waivers.
- **April 19, 2017:** Charlie Bean Executive Director, CICA shared information and experience he had attending the Disability Awareness Training held in Chico and Sacramento.
- **May** was canceled due to speakers attending State budget hearings

**CICA’s** monthly statewide calls (held the 3rd Wednesday of every month) have continued to grow in attendees now reaching over 50.

**CICA** has been “at the table” in state legislative debates, hearings, meetings with legislators, and is a central player in IHSS advocacy efforts.

**CICA** now serves on and plays leadership roles in leading disability and senior organizations:

- Provides active participation on various State Stakeholder groups surrounding Electronic Timesheets, Disability Awareness Training, Provider Sick Leave, Orientation Video Update, and other State groups
- CA Collaborative on Long-Term Services and Supports
- IHSS Coalition
- CARA (CA Alliance for Retired Americans)
- CA Olmstead Committee

**CICA** successfully called for consumer involvement in all administrative discussions on the Coordinated Care Initiative.

**CICA** has provided representation on the State’s Public Authority Advisory Committee until it was disbanded. There is a chance this is brought back to work on Stakeholder ideas not completed.

**CICA** completed a Consumer, Provider, and Advisory Committee Survey in cooperation with CAPA and State Public Authority.

**CICA** has put on a statewide workshop in Sacramento, Wednesday, May 24, 2017.

**CICA** partnered with CARA in putting on Elder Empowerment Workshop.

**CICA** completed a Consumer, Provider, and Advisory Committee Survey in cooperation with CAPA and State Public Authority.

**CICA** keeps members involved, informed, and up-to-date on issues including IHSS, state budget issues, Department of Labor regulations, and other issues impacting IHSS recipients. This is shared through CICA's mailing list and through posts shared on Facebook.

**CICA's** annual meeting via teleconference in June involves over 25 counties to set goals for the year.

**CICA's** monthly Executive Committee Conference sets priorities and strategies for organizational issues.

**CICA** actively engaged our members and participated in Disability Capitol Action Day (DCAD) sponsored by CFILC (CA Foundation of Independent Living Centers) in June.

**CICA** updated and expanded its website, e-mail blasts, and Facebook page with consumer information and action materials.

**CICA** gathers information about various State and Federal Bills and writes letters in support of or in opposition to proposed bills that affect the IHSS consumer or provider (can be found at <http://cicaihss.org/cica-legislative-resources> ). Also signed onto letters in cooperation with other organizations representing needs of seniors and people with disabilities.

Some Letters of Support:

- [March, 2016](#): Support of AB -1797, IHSS Applicant Confirmation Number - would require that an IHSS applicant get a confirmation number when they complete an IHSS application over the telephone.

- [August, 2016](#): AB 1930 (Lackey) - as a first step in the process of addressing a very real problem impacting parent and spouse providers of IHSS. Because of an antiquated loophole in federal and state tax law, these home care workers are currently unable to participate in mainstream social insurance programs such as unemployment, social security or Medicare. This means after a lifetime of work or if they lose their client or become disabled themselves these workers are left with nothing. The bill would create an advisory committee to study the financial impact of these exclusions.
- [February, 2017](#): SB 239 (Wiener) - would modernize laws that criminalize and stigmatize people living with HIV.
- [February, 2017](#): SB 218 (Dodd) - measure that will prohibit the state from filing a claim against a beneficiary's CalABLE account for the payment of medical assistance paid under Medi-Cal.
- [April 2017](#): TY Letter for Disability Awareness Training being added to Social Worker/Eligibility training
- [May, 2017](#): SB 620 - ADA Education and Reform Act of 2017, and Call on Their Representatives to Withdraw Their Co-Sponsorship, and to Vote "No."
- [May, 2017](#): SB 239 modernizes laws that criminalize and stigmatize people living with HIV. California criminal law should take the same approach to HIV as it does to other serious communicable diseases.