



IHSS Stakeholder Advisory Committee
October 21, 2015
Meeting Highlights

The first meeting of the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) was held on October 21, 2015 in Sacramento. The primary purpose of the meeting was to develop a shared understanding of the IHSS Program and scope of responsibility for the SAC and to begin working on operational guidelines. All 13 appointed members were in attendance along with Statewide Authority Staff and Department of Social Services (CDSS) subject matter experts.

The purpose of the SAC, “to provide ongoing advice and recommendations regarding the IHSS program to the CDSS, Department of Health Care Services and IHSS Statewide Authority” was reviewed. It was noted that the SAC would not provide input on any matters related to collective bargaining with the unions.

Since all SAC meetings are subject to the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, Mark Sumner, Senior Counsel, California Department of Managed Health Care, who serves as Counsel to the Statewide Authority, provided an overview of presentation to familiarize members with the requirements. Then, Eileen Carroll, Deputy Director, and Hafida Habek, Policy and Quality Assurance Branch Chief, Adult Program Division, California Department of Social Services, provided an overview of the IHSS Program and discussed emerging trends in the program. Presentation materials are available at <http://www.ihsstatewideauthority.ca.gov/PG4873.htm>.

The afternoon discussion on the Operational Charter began with great energy and agreement to keep it simple. Members had a robust discussion on vision statement concepts and potential goal areas and voted on preliminary goal topics. However, given time constraints, the Committee elected to continue work on the goals and operational guidelines in subsequent two-person subcommittee meetings. The Charter would then be adopted at the next full SAC meeting.

Public comment themes, provided both at the meeting and in written correspondence after the meeting, included concerns about: the implementation of the provisions of SB 855 and SB 873 that establishes limits on the number of authorized hours providers in IHSS and the Waiver Personal Care Services and the impact on certain provider populations; an appropriate venue for consumers and providers to raise issues of concern; and pay-related issues around paychecks and timesheets.

Future SAC meetings will be held on January 15, 2016, in San Diego, and July 15, 2016, in Sacramento.