IHSS/PA Advisory Committee Teleconference Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2022 3:00 p.m.

Call-in Number: 805-947-0499 Passcode: 277 732 748#

	Delfina Alvarez	Χ	Rosa Ortiz
Х	Jacob Lesner-Buxton	Χ	Patricia Puentes
Х	James Importante (CEO's Office)	Χ	Maria Alvarez
Х	Irma Nunez	Χ	Leticia Ortega (non-voting)
X	Ramon Ortiz	Х	Aracely Preciado(non-voting)

Item #	Topic	Discussion
1.	Call to order	The regular meeting of the IHSS Public Authority Advisory Committee was called to order at 3:04 p.m.
2.	Public Comments	There were no public comments.
3.	Read and Approve Previous Meeting Minutes	Enrique Guevara read the Advisory Committee Meeting minutes for 11/17/21.
		 Committee Member Patricia Gamboa Puentes motioned to approve the previous meetings' minutes. Committee Member Jacob Lesner Buxton seconded the motion.
4.	Advisory Committee Business	There wasn't Advisory Committee Business.
5.	Union Update	Committee Member Aracely Preciado provided the union update.
		 SEIU2015 has been meeting with Public Authority to coordinate Personal Protective Equipment.
		Members have taken action for the Build Back Better initiative.
		 SEIU2015 has been contacting IHSS Care Providers to inform them of the wage increase. Beginning 1/1/2022 the provider pay rate will be \$16.35 per hour.
		 It was clarified that union meetings will be happening via zoom. Invitations are being texted to members.
		Aracely is to connect with members to follow up on invitations.
6.	Public Authority Update	As of January 5, 2022, Ventura County offices are closed to the public because of the virus surge and to minimize the spread.
		 The closure is for a minimum of three weeks. The closure may be extended beyond three weeks as determined by the County and Public Health.
		 Public Authority continues to support providers via telephone, email and fax during the closure.

		 Appointments for Personal Protective Equipment are being made at both the Simi and Ventura offices. Public Authority staff hold appointments outside.
		 Providers were informed of the office closure through the monthly newsletter emailed to providers.
		 The two in person provider trainings that were planned by the Public Authority have been postponed due to the current situation with the variant. These will resume once it is okay to meet in small groups.
		 Committee Member Ramon Ortiz described an appointment he had for an IHSS reassessment with a Public Health Nurse. There are steps in the process he had concerns with. Committee Member Leticia Ortega will follow up with the IHSS Program Manager for individual follow up.
		 Towards the end of December there was a Public Health order that updated the vaccination requirements for providers. The COVID booster shot is now required.
		 Providers have a 2/1/2022 date to receive the COVID booster shot by. Providers who are eligible to receive the booster and have not received it will be required to be tested weekly.
		 The State send out notices to providers and to consumers regarding the new requirement. Providers were also informed via the monthly provider newsletter.
		 Under the American Rescue Plan the Career Pathways training for providers is being developed by the State. Currently they are gathering information from counties and the public.
		 Public information sessions are being held by the State. Enrique to email information on future session once Committee Member Leticia receives information.
		 Trainings developed for Career Pathways are planned for late 2022. There will be stipends for providers completing these trainings as well as specialized trainings to develop skills and abilities.
		The state is also utilizing funds from the American Rescue Plan to issue a one-time payment of \$500 to providers.
		 Payments are going out January 2022. Providers who worked for a minimum of two months between March 2020 and March 2021 for a consumer will be eligible.
7.	Next Meeting and Agenda Items	Agenda items can be emailed to Enrique Guevara.
		The next meeting will be February 16th, 2022.
8.	Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 3:41 p.m.
	Next 1	neeting, February 16, 2022 will be via teleconference