

IHSS/PA Advisory Committee Teleconference Meeting Minutes

February 16, 2022

3:00 p.m.

Call-in Number: 805-947-0499

Passcode: 277 732 748#

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

Item #	Topic	Discussion
1.	Call to order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The regular meeting of the IHSS Public Authority Advisory Committee was called to order at 3:05 p.m.
2.	Public Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There were no public comments.
3.	Read and Approve Previous Meeting Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enrique Guevara read the Advisory Committee Meeting minutes for 1/19/22. Committee Member Leticia Ortega moved to make an edit to the IHSS/PA Advisory Committee members listed on the 1/19/22 minutes. The IHSS/PA Advisory Committee approved the edits. Committee Member Ramon Ortiz motioned to approve the previous meetings' minutes. Committee Member Jacob Lesner Buxton seconded the motion.
4.	Advisory Committee Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There wasn't Advisory Committee Business.
5.	Union Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee Member Aracely Preciado provided the union update. SEIU2015 is getting ready to complete EPG distributions on 3/7/22. From 10 AM to 12 PM there will be a distribution in Simi Valley and Santa Paula. From 3 PM to 5 PM there will be a distribution at the Oxnard Performing Arts Center on the same day. Members will be informed via email.
6.	Public Authority Update	<p>Public Authority Office Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of January 2022, Ventura County offices are closed to the public. Public Authority recently received information that select County offices will be opening 2/23/22. The Public Authority is awaiting instruction from the Human Services Agency director on when the Public Authority will reopen to the public. <p>COVID Vaccination Booster Requirement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The COVID Vaccination booster requirement for providers has been extended to 3/1/22 from 2/1/22. The State will be sending notices to

update providers and consumers. Public Authority has included this update on its monthly newsletter to providers.

COVID Back-Up Provider

- COVID back-up provider pay expired in 12/31/21.
- It allowed providers to assist consumers whose regular provider was unavailable due to a COVID related reason. Providers would receive a \$2 hourly pay increase while providing assistance to consumers with this need.
- Update: COVID back-up provider pay has been extended beginning retroactively to 2/1/22.
- Please inform the Public Authority if you know of any providers who would like to be a COVID back-up provider.

COVID Sick Leave Pay

- Committee Member Ramon inquired on a new law related to COVID sick leave pay for providers.
- It was explained that supplemental COVID sick leave pay applies to providers.
- It had previously ended at the end of 2021. It would allow for providers to receive COVID sick leave pay for 40 hours or an average amount of hours they worked.
- Public Authority is waiting to receive further information from the State on specifics for implementing the newly approved COVID sick leave pay.
- New forms will be provided with updated information from the State for providers to submit claims.

Tax Assistance

- If you know of anyone who needs to file their taxes there's assistance organized by United Way, the IRS, and County of Ventura.
- Certified workers will be available to provide assistance free of charge.
- Interested individuals can call 211 to schedule an appointment.
- There will be different locations for appointments throughout the County.
- To be eligible those interested will be required to have made less than \$57,000 in 2021.

EBT Scam Alerts

- Please share information for those who utilize Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) cards as there have been scams targeting them statewide.
- Individuals will receive text messages advising them to call a provided phone number and share personal identifiable information related to the individual and their benefit account.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scammers are capable of duplicating EBT cards with a small amount of information. With these duplicated cards individual's benefits will be lost to them. • Individuals with EBT cards can call the phone number of the backside of their cards to ask questions or inquire on their benefits. • The District Attorney has a fraud hotline 805-477-1605 that suspected behavior can be reported to. <p>Other Comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee member Ramon expressed his gratitude to all that Public Authority does. He suggested to have training for County staff on how to deescalate clients. This would be to also improve the understanding of situations consumers may be going through.
7.	Next Meeting and Agenda Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agenda items can be emailed to Enrique Guevara. • The next meeting will be March 16th, 2022.
8.	Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting was adjourned at 3:33 p.m.

Next meeting, March 16, 2022 will be via teleconference

Minutes submitted by: Enrique Guevara