

**IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES/PUBLIC AUTHORITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**April 14, 2023, 12:45 PM**

**COC- County Operations Center  
5560 Overland Ave  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Joaquin Anguera Training Room  
San Diego, CA 92123**

**Zoom Meeting:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8597078275?pwd=bFkxa2tGMGJvL0xLNU5xS3RrYlZrdz09>

Meeting ID: 859 707 8275

Passcode: 172598

<b>I. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 1:15 PM.</b>			
A. Attendance			
Members		Excused Members	Guests
Nadine Branch Yolanda Ivy Marissa "Rissa" Chavez Erica McClure Ethel Larkins	Angela Vittucci Charles Kirtley Nicanora Montenegro	Rusty Krumm	Don Howard Jacqueline Jackson Chris Mendez Denise Montenegro Kim
Alternates	AIS/IHSS Staff	IHSS Public Authority	
	Charity Lerma Elsie Campos Cecilia Castro	Thomas H. Johnson Ana Molina Diana Montellano	
Item	Outcome/Discussion		Action Items
<b>II. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM: Done.</b>			
<b>III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Done.</b>			
<b>IV. INTRODUCTIONS: Everyone in attendance introduced themselves.</b>			
<b>V. MEETING CODE OF CONDUCT REVIEW: Rissa reviewed the IHSS/PA Advisory Committee Meeting Code of Conduct.</b>			
<b>VI. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Nadine asked for approval of the agenda. Ethel motioned to approve the agenda. Nicanora seconded it. <b>Motion carried.</b></b>			
<b>VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Nadine asked for approval of the minutes. She noted one correction, Antonio's name was listed both as a member and a guest. He should only be listed as a guest as he is no longer a member. Yolanda motioned to approve the agenda with the changes. Rissa seconded it. <b>Motion carried.</b></b>			

**IX. CHAIR REPORT:** Nadine shared that she attended the 2023 Advisory Board Chairs’ Meeting with Nick Macchione on March 2, 2023. She reminded the committee members that she shared information from Nick via email. The information outlines the strategic initiatives and goals for the future. Nadine also shared that she attended the BCC (Board Commissions and Committees) Meeting. The BCC meeting provided valuable information for Committee Members. It provided information regarding the A74, the Brown Act, and Roberts Rules. Nadine informed committee members that they are welcome to attend any BCC sessions offered in the future. Nadine also shared that aside from the committee she is part of the Central Region Community Leadership Group, specifically their health committee. She informed the group that they also have a committee that focuses on housing, homelessness, and education. Nadine shared that at the last meeting, they provided stats for the population of each region. The stats covered data points such as life expectancy, income, etc. Nadine also reminded the committee that she emailed them information regarding Career Pathways.

**IX. PRESENTATIONS (discussion and possible action): Take Me Home (TMH) Program & You Are Not Alone (YANA) Program – Herminia Estrada:** Herminia’s presentation covered the Take Me Home Program. The program is a voluntary registry intended to serve individuals with special needs and/or medical conditions. It is a database available to those who wish to participate, it is designed to increase their public safety by providing easily accessible information regarding their condition to law enforcement in case of emergency. The program is recommended for anyone who: has limited communication skills, is unable to provide their name and address, has unique behavior or mannerisms, tends to wander, may not be initially identified as disabled, may become easily agitated or confused under stress, and/or is unresponsive to strangers. This program can help individuals with Alzheimer’s disease, dementia, autism, down syndrome, brain injuries, and more. Information that can be provided to the TMH Program includes: a photograph (updated annually), an emergency contact, special considerations (for behaviors such as running and attraction to water), and vehicle information. Registration for the program can be completed online at: [www.sdsheriff.net/tmh](http://www.sdsheriff.net/tmh) or in person with a Crime Prevention Specialist at any sheriff’s patrol station. Herminia demonstrated how to access the registration form online. The form is located on the “Community” tab, under the link “Take Me Home Registry.” **You Are Not Alone (YANA) Program – Herminia** also shared information on the YANA Program. The program allows individuals who are elderly, disabled, and shut-in residents to have someone to call. It is a free service for those within the San Diego County jurisdiction. Individuals who are part of the program receive regular phone calls as well as weekly visits to ensure their well-being. Senior Volunteer Patrol members maintain awareness of any signs of abuse, neglect, and lack of resources. If necessary, the team makes referrals to APS (Adult Protective Services) and AIS (Aging and Independence Services).

**X. REPORTS**

<p>A. AIS Council</p>	<p>Ethel reported that she attended her first AIS Advisory Council in-person meeting in Overland last month. UDW had a meeting regarding the timecard changes taking place in July. She also shared that she attended the Nutrition Caregivers meeting on March 21, 2023. There was a presentation from, CAL-AIM, Jewish Family Services, they spoke about the IHSS application process and explained how consumers can be granted more hours. The Nutrition Committee visited community centers in National City and Escondido.</p>	
<p>B. Membership Committee</p>	<p>Charity reported that the committee currently has no vacancies. She added that three members are pending ethics training. Two members are within their eligible time frame since they are new members. Nadine added that recruiting for members should remain a priority to plan for</p>	

	current members reaching the end of their terms.	
C. IHSS	<p>Charity informed the committee that IHSS is continuing to onboard new team members. They finished their IHSS Academy last month with the largest group they've ever had with over 40 individuals. Charity also shared information regarding the Tech 2 Connect Program. She added that the program offers different layers of assistance, such as iPads, internet access, and training. The program is offered specifically to IHSS recipients. Nadine asked Charity what the average caseload per social worker is. Charity informed her that it varies by region, some teams handle intakes, and other teams handle granted cases. On average the caseload is about 350 cases. Charity adds that as the program grows and new staff is trained, she hopes that this will increase the level of customer service and aid in response times. Nicanora inquired about the eligibility for Tech 2 Connect. Charity informed her that IHSS recipients are eligible and IHSS Providers can be trained to provide the support. Erica commented that there are hours available for IHSS Providers to receive training. Charity confirmed that there is a category of hours available for training. Charity introduced social worker supervisors, Elsie Campos, and Cecilia Castro.</p>	
D. UDW	<p>Chris reported that the district meeting in Escondido was a success. Chris also reported that UDW is doing area informational meetings, they are going around the county to inform members of the new contract. Chris also announced that UDW would begin its leadership academy. Starting next week, they will meet on Wednesday and the graduation will be in June at the District Membership Meeting. UDW will be discussing Assembly Bill 1672 during a town hall meeting next Friday. Chris also reminded the committee that UDW has partnered with the IRS to provide tax help which is available at: <a href="http://udwa.org/taxhelp/">udwa.org/taxhelp/</a>.</p>	
E. Community	<p>Nicanora reported on SB321, which includes domestic workers, such as childcare workers, yard workers, and IHSS Providers. Nicanora informed the group that she was part of the committee that provided guidance on policy on behalf of Caregivers and IHSS Providers. Since the bill has passed, she would like to ask for support on SB686. She informed the committee that they are currently petitioning and looking for signatures in support. Nicanora also spoke in support of long-term services. She added that she would like to give a presentation to inform everyone about long-term services and their impact. Nicanora also informed the committee about the Grandparents Connection, an organization that helps grandparents who are the guardians of children. Nicanora notes that many of the grandparents have low incomes, as they rely on social security funds and retirement pensions. On April 8, 2023, the Grandparents Connection had an event in partnership with the Filipino Worker's Center to promote a program that offers financial assistance with utility bills. The program is the TEAM and CHANGES Program, through the California Public Utilities. Nicanora expressed that she was very overwhelmed by the community's need for assistance. Over 500 people attended the event. Nicanora informed the</p>	

	committee of a variety of resources the Grandparents Connection offers, resources such as access to legal advice for their family members, food, and technology training.
F. CICA	Nadine reported that CICA is working with different organizations to make changes to the Brown Act. Additionally, CICA is working on creating training videos for consumers. Nadine asked the committee to visit <a href="http://cicaihss.org">cicaihss.org</a> to provide feedback on the changes to the website.
G. Public Authority	Thomas reported that the new agreement with UDW was approved and went into effect on March 1, 2023. The agreement increased provider wages to \$17 an hour, \$50,000 annually for PPE, and \$40,000 for transportation. Additionally, 60 cents per hour were granted for benefits and 3 cents per hour was granted for life insurance. Thomas noted although contributions in cents per hour might seem like a small amount, there were forty-eight million hours worked last year. The agreement was fully supported by the Board of Supervisors and the San Diego County Staff. Thomas reported that Career Pathways is now working with Homebridge to open the availability of more online classes. The classes will include CPR and first aid. Thomas informed the committee that some bills are pending in support of adjusting the Brown Act. The bills are AB817 and AB557. He mentioned that both bills are supported by CAPA (California Association of Public Authorities). Thomas reported that the budget approval for the Public Authority is in progress. The new budget is requesting twelve additional positions within the Public Authority. Thomas will present the Public Authority budget at the next meeting. He noted that there is a need for timesheet trainers. The Public Authority currently has two timesheet trainers, they are in the process of hiring two more. Thomas informed the committee that providers can call: 866-351-7722, to schedule an appointment with a timesheet trainer. <b>Financial Report:</b> Thomas reviewed the budget and informed the committee that there is a balance of \$3103.74. The committee has that budget available until June, at which point the budget will reset for the next fiscal year. Thomas informed that committee that stipends for the next three months will deduct from that balance. Nadine also mentioned the CICA dues, which will be approximately \$750. However, Nadine would like to propose paying \$1000.

**XI. OLD BUSINESS (discussion and possible action):**

**A. Goals Review:**

1. **Quarterly Open Table Talks:** Nadine reported that Public Authority staff participated in PASE. Thomas added that they are working on finding the support to have open table talks. Nadine added that she would like to

**B. Art Design for Committee Tablecloth:** Nadine asked Ana for an update on the tablecloth graphic. Ana informed Nadine that an update from the printing company is still pending. The estimate for the cost of the tablecloth is approximately \$200.

**C. Purchase of Items for Outreach** (tent, display holders for brochures and pens): Nadine asked Ana to inquire with the vendor for the tablecloth to ask if they offer art for tents. She also asked her to provide pricing on materials for community events.

**XII. NEW BUSINESS (discussion and possible action):**

- A. **In-Person Meetings:** Nadine referred the committee to the checklist worksheet that was sent out. The worksheet further explains AB2449 and the Brown Act. She talked about the importance of establishing an in-person quorum.
- B. **CICA AB817 Letter:** Nadine informed the committee that CICA is supporting changes to the Brown Act to allow for virtual meetings. The AB817 seeks to remove barriers to participation for seniors and people with disabilities. Nadine presented a template of a letter to advocate for support. Nadine asked Thomas if the letter can be signed by a committee. Thomas told Nadine that it is his understanding that the letter can be signed by individuals, but not by the committee as a whole, for that further approval is needed. This is due to the committee being appointed by the board of supervisors. Thomas informed the committee that he will seek additional guidelines and forward them to the committee. If the committee chooses to take a stance, there may be additional steps involved, such as sending the letter to the Agency Director, Nick Macchione. **Pending the review of committee bylaws if approved, Rissa motioned a vote for the committee’s support of the AB817 letter. Yolanda seconded. Motion passed with six votes.**
- C. **SanDi-ECAN Event:** Nadine announced that SanDi-ECAN is having an event on Wednesday, May 10, 2023. The event will take place in two locations: from 9 am -12 pm at the McGrath YMCA in Spring Valley, and from 12 pm – 2 pm at the Water Conservation Garden in El Cajon. Nadine added that she hopes to partner with the Public Authority. Nadine asked the committee if anyone could cover either location. Ethel told Nadine she would follow up about participating in the Spring Valley location.

**XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT:** A member of the public spoke out in favor of AB817, he informed the committee that he will personally send a letter expressing his support for the bill. He stated that he believes that the lack of access to meetings is an issue, and he hopes that the meetings via Zoom can continue.

**XIV. MEMBER COMMENT:** None.

**XV. NEXT MEETING AGENDA:** To be determined.

**XVI. ADJOURNMENT:** Nadine adjourned the meeting at 3:06 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ana Molina.