

**IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES/PUBLIC AUTHORITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**August 11, 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 12:45 PM.</b>			
A. Attendance			
Members		Excused Members	Guests
<b>In-Person</b> Nadine Branch Marissa "Rissa" Chavez Erica McClure Angela Vittucci	Nicanora Montenegro Rusty Krumm Yolanda Ivy Ethel Larkins		Ronald Bradford Charles Kirtley Jeanice Montenegro Zeenat Hassan
Absent	AIS/IHSS Staff	IHSS Public Authority	
Ethel Larkins	Charity Lerma Julie Lara Aleyamma 'Christine' Thomas Gilbert Contreras- Morales	Thomas H. Johnson Ana Molina	
Item	Outcome/Discussion		Action Items
<b>II. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM:</b> Done.			
<b>III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:</b> Done.			
<b>IV. INTRODUCTIONS:</b> Everyone in attendance introduced themselves.			
<b>V. MEETING CODE OF CONDUCT REVIEW:</b> Erica reviewed the IHSS/PA Advisory Committee Meeting Code of Conduct.			
<b>VI. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:</b> Nadine asked for approval of the agenda. Nicanora motioned to approve the agenda. Yolanda seconded it. <b>Motion carried.</b>			
<b>VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:</b> Nadine asked for approval of the minutes. Rissa motioned to approve. Angela seconded it. <b>Motion carried.</b>			
<b>IX. CHAIR REPORT:</b> Nadine shared that she had the opportunity to attend the resource fair on 7/29/2023, which was hosted by Assemblywoman Akilah Weber. The event was the 79 <sup>th</sup> District Backpack Giveaway. Nadine thanked the Public Authority for assisting her with materials for the event that was held in El Cajon at the Ronald Regan Center.			

**X. PRESENTATIONS (discussion and possible action): Disability Rights California**

**(Presentation by Zeenat Hassan )** – Zeenat Hassan (she/her) introduced herself, she is a staff attorney at Disability Rights California (DRC). Zeenat explained the history of DRC. DRC has its origins in the 1970s. Through the creation of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act in (1975), the Protection and Advocacy (P&A) system was also created. Being designated as a P&A organization grants an agency “access authority.” Access authority allows agencies to enter any locked facilities where individuals with disabilities are being held, to investigate for signs of abuse and neglect. Zeenat also gave an overview of DRC and their programs. DRC currently has a staff of about 200 people, which includes attorneys, advocates, organizers, policy specialists, lobbyists, outreach specialists, and more. DRC headquarters are in Sacramento with large offices in San Diego, Los Angeles, and Oakland. They have small offices in other cities throughout the State. Zeenat explained the practice groups of their Legal Advocacy Unit, which included advocacy and community engagement, civil rights, housing stability, youth, voting rights, mental health, and more. Zeenat reviewed the services offered by the DRC, which include information, referrals, advice, negotiation and mediation, direct representation, technical assistance, policy advocacy, and community education. She also reviewed the intake process so that anyone needing assistance knows what to expect. She clarified that DRC does not handle issues that are unrelated to an individual’s disability. They also do not offer direct representation in legal matters such as criminal law, family law, bankruptcy, workers’ compensation, personal injury, social security applications, and appeals (but they may handle other issues regarding social security). They also do not handle obtaining guardianships or conservatorships.

**XI. REPORTS**

A. Membership Committee	Julie reported that Marissa and Angela were termed out as of 8/31/2023. Julie said she will ask them to serve on a month-to-month basis until their seats are filled. She said she is actively trying to recruit new members. Julie said she will be reaching out to her social work supervisors in case they have someone to refer for membership. She said that she hopes to get some interest following the release of the latest AIS Newsletter. Julie said some of the members are pending completion of ethics trainings and will be reaching out to those individuals.
B. Community	Nicanora reported that the Filipino America Association for Developmental Disabilities will have a family picnic on 8/27/2023, at Admiral Baker Park, Gazebo#2. The Nation Federation of Filipino American Associations, in partnership with the Mabubay Foundation and the National City Public Library, will have an event to celebrate Heroes Day, a national Filipino holiday, on 8/28/2023. There will be books by Filipino authors donated to the library. Nicanora reported that the San Diego Regional Center is having an event on 9/25/2023. She invited committee members to attend and share resource information. On 8/29/2023, caregivers and several organizations, such as National Domestic Workers Alliance, UDW, and California Domestic Workers Coalition, are marching in Sacramento, in support of Senate Bill 686. Nicanora shared that UDW and the Filipino Workers Center received funding from CalGrows for the Workforce Development Program. Like the Career Pathways Program provided by the Public Authority for IHSS Providers, this program will offer career development classes to non-IHSS Providers. The program will offer non-IHSS Providers the opportunity to earn a stipend for attending courses.

C. IHSS	Charity said they are working on onboarding new team members and having them go through the academy. She shared that the Southeast Livewell Center was opened to the public on 7/31/2023. Charity introduced social work supervisors Gilbert Contreras-Morales and Aleyamma 'Christine' Thomas.
D. CICA	Rusty reported that he is attending the CICA training on 8/2/2023. He said the meeting was very informative, they had someone explain the expansion of MediCal eligibility. They also mentioned that the State budget was lower and the possibility that it might cause a strain on the IHSS Program. Rusty also explained that there were discussions about asset limits and MediCal. Nadine shared that the Executive Committee is partnering with HomeBridge to develop training videos. She said the Southern Region Conference date has been set as 11/14/2023 and it will most likely be held in Palm Desert. Nadine asked committee members to consider attending, she said they are working on allocating funds for travel.
E. Public Authority	Thomas reported that the Provider Appreciation Event, which is done in partnership with UDW, has a potential date of 11/2/2023; the event will likely be held virtually. Similar to last year, Thomas extended an invitation to the committee for their participation. Thomas said the Public Authority Registry will hold a quarterly "Small Talk" caregiver support group on 8/23/2023. This forum will allow Registry Providers to communicate and receive training from the Registry team and other departments in the Public Authority. Thomas said the Public Authority is working on hiring new team members, to assist with the timesheet training. He said the Public Authority is working on finding satellite locations throughout the county, where the new staff can work out of and provide assistance to IHSS Providers in the North and East County areas. Thomas reported that on 9/11/2023, the Public Authority will partner with Homebridge to facilitate an in-person training to include First Aid, CPR, and other caregiver job skills training.. Thomas reviewed the financial report with the committee.

- XII. OLD BUSINESS (discussion and possible action):**
- A. **Elections:** Elections took place. Nadine was voted in for Chair, **passed with 7 votes.** Nicanora was voted in as Vice-Chair **passed with 7 votes.** Ethel Larkins was voted in as Parliamentarian **passed with 7 votes.**
  - B. **New Goal – Bring the Department on Developmental Disabilities Services (DDS) and Home Community Base Services (HCBS) to the IHSS/PA Advisory Committee table on an ongoing basis, to stay informed of processes and changes to programs related to IHSS.** Nadine agreed to provide contact information to Thomas from DDS, HCBS, and the Regional Center. Marissa said that DDS does not have a local office, however, the State Council on Developmental Disabilities has an office in San Diego. She will be providing their contact information.
  - C. **Advisory Committee Pictures** – Ana informed the committee she would be going around and taking pictures that will be included in Public Authority reports and other committee-related materials.
  - D. **Emergency Drill** – Nadine informed the committee that she is working on getting more information regarding the building exiting and emergency procedures.

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

A. **Request for Reasonable Accommodations** – Rusty said he wanted to bring forth the topic of reasonable accommodations because Charles Kirtley is not able to participate as a voting member due to the Brown Act. Based on not being able to attend in-person, Charles is also not able to receive a stipend. Rusty mentioned that Charles being unable to participate as a voting member was concerning to him because the basis for creating the committee was to have individuals who are elderly and disabled actively engaged in providing guidance and feedback on the IHSS program. Rusty then read a City Government Code document to the committee that outlined their process for allowing individuals to participate in their meetings. Rusty asked the committee to support a motion to reconsider Charles Kirtley’s membership status and allow him to have full membership. Before the vote, Marissa asked for clarification on whether the request was reviewed by the Board of Supervisors after it was brought to the Public Authority. Thomas clarified that the request was reviewed by County staff and was based on the Brown Act guidelines from the State and the County. Thomas said that following the committee vote, he will forward the committee’s recommendation to County staff for review. Rusty requested a motion to vote on the recommendation to reconsider Charles Kirtley’s membership status and allow him to have full participation as a voting member, he also proposed a change in the committee bylaws. Angela motioned the vote. Yolanda seconded it. **Motion passed with 7 votes.**

**XIV. PUBLIC COMMENT:** No public comment.

**XV. MEMBER COMMENT:** Angela said she wanted to report loopholes to commit fraud. She said she had a personal situation with her IHSS Provider, in which the provider was allegedly told she could claim more hours than she worked. Angela said the caregiver came to her with papers to sign to claim additional hours. Angela claims she signed under duress, so she called payroll the next day to report it. Angela said she was told the caregiver would have to be paid if she signed. Angela said there was a paper she was going to bring to the meeting as proof, and the caregiver took it. Thomas and Charity mentioned that although personal matters should be discussed outside of the meeting, due to privacy issues, they agreed to follow up with Angela and file a report with Adult Protective Service (APS) as needed.

**XVI. NEXT MEETING AGENDA:September 8, 2023**

**XVII. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 2:42 PM**