

## **Annual Report to the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors**

**Name:** Contra Costa County In-Home Supportive Services Public Authority  
Advisory Committee

**Meeting:** 1:00 to 3:00 on the third Tuesday of every month (except August & December)  
500 Ellinwood Way, Pleasant Hill

**Chair:** Sydney Anderson

**Staff:** Elizabeth Dondi – Executive Director  
Lorena Orellana – Program Manager  
Beatriz Salgado, Secretary – Advanced Level

**Report Period:** January 2018 – December 2018

**Prepared by:** Sydney Anderson, Chair  
Elizabeth Dondi, Executive Director

### **I. ACTIVITIES**

#### **Provider and Consumer Training**

Through collaboration with the Health, Safety and Education Sub-Committee, consumer and provider educational and training sessions were conducted by Public Authority Registry/Training Specialists throughout the year in East, Central and West County.

Topics presented included:

- Alzheimer's and Dementia
- Grief and Mental Health
- CPR/First Aid

#### **Rapid Response Program**

This program refers providers to IHSS consumers who are unexpectedly without their regular provider. The Rapid Response Sub-Committee has continued to monitor this program. The Program, which provides services through a contracted home care agency, has allowed the most in need and eligible consumers to obtain the assistance they need and remain safely in their homes. This program was started in July 2017. In 2017 the number of calls received was 127. 78 calls were eligible for service and were filled. For calendar year 2018, 405 calls were received and 259 calls were eligible for service and were filled. When a call does not meet the criteria for this program, Registry staff works with the consumer or consumer's family to assist them to access the care they need through referral from the Registry.

### **II. ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

#### **Communication and Networking/Community Involvement**

The Advisory Committee Chair Sydney Anderson facilitates the East County Resource and Networking Group where speakers present program information and various topics regarding older adults. She also is an active member of the East County Senior Coalition which holds events to inform and educate older adults. Ms. Anderson attended the Senior Injury Prevention Conference and a Mental Health for Seniors training in March 2018 and September 2018 respectively. She also attended an IHSS New Provider

Orientation so as to have a better understanding of the information IHSS providers receive at these orientations. Pertinent information from these events was shared with the committee.

Member John Roe attended a training on Community Emergency Response conducted by San Ramon Fire Department.

Advisory Committee members alternated in attending the CICA (California In-Home Supportive Service Consumer Alliance) monthly call meetings in order to keep abreast of IHSS issues. Summaries of the meetings were shared with the committee.

The Advisory Committee, through the Nominating Sub-Committee, interviewed and recommended for appointment to the Board of Supervisors one candidate for a vacancy on the Public Authority Advisory Committee. The candidate was approved and appointed.

### **III. ATTENDANCE/REPRESENTATION**

State Law, regulations and County Ordinance specify an eleven-member Advisory Committee appointed by the Board of Supervisors. No fewer than fifty percent of the members shall be individuals who are current or past users of personal assistance services paid for through public or private funds or are consumers of In-Home Supportive Services. As of December 2018 four of the members meet these criteria.

Attendance at general meetings and sub-committees has been good. Currently there are two vacancies on the Advisory Committee: consumer 60 years or older seat 1 and 2. We are actively recruiting to fill these vacancies. The vacancies are posted on the Public Authority web page; the Registry staff are involved in recruiting as they interact with consumers; recruitment flyers are available at Public Authority front desk and individual members are passing the word around.

### **IV. TRAINING/CERTIFICATION**

This year Advisory Committee members received training or attended presentations on the following topics:

- Ethics
- AB 1234 Mandatory Advisory Body Requirement (every two years)
- Caregiving Support
- Dementia
- CPR/First Aid

### **V. PROPOSED WORK PLAN**

- Recruit for and fill the vacancies on the Advisory Committee
- Continue to work with staff on trainings for providers and consumers
- Participate in monthly CICA meetings
- Reach out to other IHSS Public Authority advisory committees for best practices
- Continue to monitor East Bay transit agencies and advocate when necessary for improvement to ridership experience for persons with disabilities
- Continue to monitor state and federal legislation and grants which impact IHSS
- Explore additional training opportunities for Advisory Committee members