

**Contra Costa County In-Home Supportive Services
Advisory Committee Meeting
May 21, 2019 Meeting Summary**

Present: Mustafa Alsalihi, Sydney Anderson, Wilson Cheng, Joe Juarez, Michelle Hernandez, John Roe, and Wendell Snyder.

Absent: Keegan Duncan and Chantana Vornvilaipan

Staff: Elizabeth Dondi, Lorena Orellana and Beatriz Salgado

Guests: None

Roll Call and Introductions:

John Roe, Chair of the AC Committee called the meeting to order at 1:11pm. Roll call was called and the sign-in sheet was completed. A quorum was established.

Public Comment Period:

None

Individual Member Reports & Announcements

Previously Sydney reported that people receiving SSI can now apply for Cal Fresh starting May 1, 2019.

April 16, 2019 Meeting Summary

Wilson Chen moved, Wendell Snyder seconded, to approve the April 16, 2019 meeting summary as written. The motion carried; see votes below:

		Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
1	Mustafa Alsalihi	x			
2	Sydney Anderson	x			
3	Wilson Cheng	x			
4	Keegan Duncan			x	
5	Michelle Hernandez	x			
6	Joe Juarez	x			
7	John Roe				x
8	Wendell Snyder	x			
9	Chantana Vornvilaipan			x	

Presentation from Elaine Welch CEO of Mobility Matters

Elaine Welch, CEO of Mobility Matters, made a presentation to members about the services provided by Mobility Matters to seniors and Veterans residing in Contra Costa County.

Elaine explained that Mobility Matters provides information and referral helpline to needy seniors as well as transportation options.

Mobility Matters currently runs two main programs; one is Rides 4 Seniors and the other one is Rides 4 Veterans. Ride 4 seniors, serves seniors residing in their homes in Contra Costa County, 60 years or older, who cannot take other forms of transportation because they need door-through-door assistance. They must be ambulatory, able to walk with equipment such as walkers, canes, crutches and knee scooters, but not in a wheel chair.

The Rides 4 Veterans program serves veterans of any age. Rides on both programs are limited to anything medically oriented and necessity shopping.

Elaine finally talked about the Emergency Preparedness Program for seniors. This program started recently in collaboration with other non-profit organizations and churches. The program purpose is to evacuate seniors in case of an emergency and take them to shelters using trained volunteers. They also design emergency plans for their clients.

REPORTS

Fraud/Quality Assurance Report:

None

Staff Reports:

Elizabeth informed AC members that Public Authority held interviews for the Senior Benefits Clerk position on May 7, 2019. Elizabeth also mentioned a suitable candidate was identified and reference checking was in progress.

Elizabeth reported that CCERA (Contra Costa County Employees' Association) Audit Exit conference has been tentatively scheduled for June 13, 2019.

Elizabeth informed AC members, that County Administration staff advised us to write to make a final attempt to get a written request from Chantana with a deadline and copy Supervisor Federal Glover's office staff.

Elizabeth announced that on June 18, 2019 Rashida Kamara of County Connections will held a presentation about ADA transportation services to AC members at 1:30pm during the normal monthly meeting.

Elizabeth also informed members that the Departments of Health Care Services (DHCS), Department of Developmental Services (DDS), Social Services, Public Health, and Aging will host a stakeholder EVV meeting on Monday, June 17, 2019.

Elizabeth finally gave the AC members an update on some of the legislative bills that CAPA (California Association of Pubic authority) is following as follows:

SB 229 (Nazarian):

In-Home Supportive Services: Written Content Translation

Current law requires the State Department of Social Services to translate a specified notice of action into the four threshold languages of the public receiving in-home supportive services. This bill would clarify that the department is required to provide translations of written content into the four threshold languages of providers of in-home supportive services in California. The bill would permit the department to work with counties and the County Welfare Directors Association to repurpose existing, county- produced translations of written content. ***This bill is currently on the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file, where it is scheduled to be taken up later this month. This bill is co-sponsored by CAPA and CWDA.***

AB 426 (Maienschein):

In-Home Supportive Services program.

Current law requires a county welfare department to assess each recipient's continuing monthly need for in-home supportive services at varying intervals, but at least once every 12 months. Current law authorizes a county to reassess a recipient's need for services at a time interval of less than 12 months from a recipient's initial intake or last assessment if the county social worker has information indicating that the recipient's need for services is expected to decrease in less than 12 months. This bill would require a reduction of a recipient's monthly authorized number of service hours to be based solely on a verified change of a recipient's medical condition, a change in the recipient's living arrangements, a change in the recipient's functionality, a change in the recipient's circumstances, a change in the law, or an error in computing a recipient's monthly authorized number of service hours. ***This bill is currently on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File, where it will be taken up at the end of May. Recommended Position: Watch.***

AB 477 (Cervantes):

Emergency preparedness: vulnerable populations.

This bill would require cities, cities and counties, and counties to include representatives from the access and functional needs population in the next regular update of their emergency plans. ***This bill passed Assembly Appropriations Committee on May 16, 2019. Recommended Position: Support.***

AB 683 (Carrillo):

Medi-Cal: eligibility.

Current law requires Medi-Cal benefits to be provided to individuals eligible for services pursuant to prescribed standards, including a modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) eligibility standard. Current law prohibits the use of an asset or resources test for individuals whose financial eligibility for Medi-Cal is determined based on the application of MAGI. This bill would require the department to disregard specified assets and resources, such as motor vehicles and life insurance policies, in determining the Medi-Cal eligibility for an applicant or beneficiary whose eligibility is not determined using MAGI, subject to federal approval and federal financial participation. ***This bill is currently in the possession of Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file, to be heard later. Recommended Position: Support.***

AB 715 (Arambula):

Medi-Cal: program for aged and disabled persons.

Current law requires the State Department of Health Care Services to exercise its option under federal law to implement a program for aged and disabled persons. Current law requires an individual under these provisions to satisfy certain financial eligibility requirements. Current law requires the department to implement this program by means of all-county letters or similar instructions without taking regulatory action and thereafter requires the department to adopt regulations. This bill would instead require, upon receipt

of federal approval, all countable income over 100% of the federal poverty level, up to 138% of the federal poverty level, to be disregarded, after taking all other disregards, deductions, and exclusions into account for those persons eligible under the program for aged and disabled persons. ***This bill is currently was heard and pass Assembly Appropriations Committee on May 16, 2019. Recommended Position: Support.***

AB 911 (Rodriguez)

911 services: elder adults and persons with disabilities.

Would require the Office of Emergency Service, by January 1, 2022, to establish a statewide 911 Emergency Communication System. The bill would require the system to enable all Californians, including older adults, individuals with disabilities, and other at-risk persons, to voluntarily share specified information about themselves, via a secure internet website, to be transmitted to first responders during an emergency. ***This bill moved to Assembly Committee on Appropriations where it was heard and passed on May 16, 2019. Recommended Position: Support.***

AB 1088 (Wood): Medi-Cal:

Eligibility.

Would provide that an aged, blind, or disabled individual who would otherwise be eligible for Medi-Cal benefits, as specified, would be eligible for Medi-Cal without a share of cost if their income and resources otherwise meet eligibility requirements. The bill would authorize the State Department of Health Care Services to implement this provision by provider bulletins or similar instructions until regulations are adopted. ***The bill would require the department to adopt regulations by July 1, 2021, and to provide a status report to the Legislature on a semiannual basis until regulations have been adopted.***

This bill passed Assembly Appropriations Committee on May 16, 2019. Recommended Position: Support.

SB 228 (Jackson):

Master Plan on Aging.

Would require the Governor to appoint an Aging Czar and a 15-member Aging Task Force to work with representatives from impacted state departments and with stakeholders to identify the policies and priorities that need to be implemented in California to prepare for the aging of its population and to develop a master plan for aging. The bill would require the master plan to address how the state should accomplish specified goals, including expanding access to coordinated, integrated systems of care. The bill would also require the Aging Task Force to solicit input from stakeholders and gather information on the impact of California's aging population. ***This bill move from Senate Human Services Committee to Senate Appropriations Committee where it was heard and passed on May 16, 2019. Recommended Position: Pending.***

Chair Report:

None

Advisory Committee Expenditure Report:

The report for July 2018 through April 30, 2019 was handed out for committee review.

Health, Safety & Education Committee Report:

Wendell reported that the meeting was held on May 14, 2019 from 1:00pm to 2:00pm. Wendell also reported that the members reviewed the Training Update for 2019 as follow:

Training Updated for 2019

JANUARY CPR & First Aid– East

January 19, 2019: 12 reserved / 8 attended

FEBRUARY Alzheimer’s/Dementia – West

February 21, 2019: 12 reserved / 9 attended

CPR & First Aid – Central

February 27, 2019: 8 reserved / 3 attended

MARCH CPR & First Aid – Central

March 29, 2019: 13 reserved / 8 attended

APRIL Mental Health/Grief – East

Cancelled (Registry Training Specialist became ill)

Lorena informed the members that the training has been re-scheduled to September 11, 2019.

The next Rapid Response Meeting will be on July 9, 2019.

Rapid Response Committee Report:

Sydney rep that Rapid Response meeting was held on May 14, 2019 from 2:00pm to 3:00pm. Sydney reported that the members reviewed the reports as follows:

In the month of April 2019 the number of Consumers in IHSS Program increased by 264. The number of Registry consumers increased by 84. The total number of Consumers in IHSS Program in the month of April is 10,513 and the number of Registry consumers in the month of April is 3,038. The number of providers in IHSS Program decreased from 9082 to 8639 and the Registry Provider number increased from 1449 to 1459.

Elizabeth mentioned that we adjusted the criteria of determining active providers, which resulted in numbers that are more accurate. Therefore, provider numbers are not decreasing, rather, we have a better count.

In the month March, Rapid Response Program received 22 service requests, 12 of those were filled and 10 were not filled (58% of the services were filled). For the month of April, Rapid Response Program received 28 requests, 18 of these were filled, 4 were not filled and 6 were cancelled (64% of the services were filled). The majority of the not filled services were from West County. This area does not have many active providers, reason why filling the services was very challenging.

The next Rapid Response Meeting will be on July 9, 2019.

Nominating Committee Report:

Joe Juarez reported that the Nominating sub-committee met on May 14, 2019 to interview Mr. David Boots, Advisory Committee candidate to the Consumer 60 or older Seat 1. The Nominating Sub-Committee recommended to the AC that Mr. Boots to be referred to the Board of Supervisors for appointment to the AC Committee.

Wilson Cheng made a motion to recommend the candidate to the Board for appointment; Michelle Hernandez seconded the motion. Motion passed. See votes below:

		Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
1	Mustafa Alsalihi	x			
2	Sydney Anderson	x			
3	Wilson Cheng	x			
4	Keegan Duncan			x	
5	Michelle Hernandez	x			
6	Joe Juarez	x			
7	John Roe				x
8	Wendell Snyder	x			
9	Chantana Vornvilaipan			x	

Advocacy Committee Report:

No report as no meeting was held. No meeting is scheduled.

California In-Home Supportive Services Consumer Alliance (CICA) Report:

Sydney reported on the statewide call meeting held on April 17, 2019 as follows:

Debbie Thompson, from the California Department of Social Services was the first presenter talking about EVV (Electronic Visit Verification). EVV will have available two submission options, on line and phone based option. The State is planning to start conducting focus groups around the state with recipients and providers. The phone option for providers is not recommend to report daily; because it can be time consuming. It was also emphasized that the system allow users to go through prompts which means, that the user do not have to wait until the recording finishes to enter the information requested.

The phone option will have the same warning as the on line option. It will also contain the same information as options available for time sheets and payments. These two options are schedule to be ready for pilot on July 2019.

Implementation strategy will be over eighteen month's period beginning on July 2019 and ending on December 2020. Sydney mentioned that the State has applied for "good faith effort" to comply and if approved, the implementation will be delayed by another year.

The first six months has been assign to piloting the system, and the last twelve months will be use to roll out the system to the remaining state counties in six different groups, each group will have two months to implement the system. As a right now, Debbie mentioned that 33% of the providers are using Electronic

Timesheets. The state will start sending notifications to providers and recipients in the main languages English, Spanish, Chinese and Armenian.

Lorena added that the Piloting will starting in Los Angeles County. LA will be using the system for six months, and then it will be rolled to other counties in waves.

Sydney mentioned that Karen Keeslar from CAPA (California Association of Public Authorities) was the second speaker. Karen informed that the Expansion of Cal-fresh to SSI recipients will starting June 1, 2019. Karen also mentioned that about 70 of the IHSS consumers are receiving SSI and the estimate amount they will be receiving in Cal-Fresh benefit averagely per household of one is estimate to be \$130.

Sydney reported that Karen also talked about the State Budget. She mentioned that the Governor is proposing to suspend the 7% across the board cut for one year, but CAPA, CICA, unions, and other disability organizations are unite in trying to make this suspension permanent.

CAPA has been working closely with the State on the Pubic Authorities Administrative funding. Public Authorities came out of the 2017 MOE agreement (Maintenance of Effort) between the County and the State with less money, reason why they are reviewing all the components. They are reviewing the 2017 MOE agreement because the cost is not sustainable. Governor Newson is putting a generous proposal to make the MOE agreement more stable.

In regards the Brown Act Requirements, Karen mentioned that the brown act required that if any Advisory Board will be tele-conferencing a public meeting the phone, their address and phone number needs to be listed on the Public agenda, and allow people to attend the meeting to the listed location.

Finally, Karen mentioned that Trump's administration has issue some draft regulations that have as a goal to cut off payroll deductions from IHSS providers that pays co-pay for health benefit and union dues.

Independent Living Resource (ILR) Report:

None

SEIU 2015 Report:

None

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: None.

Other – agenda items for next meeting

Rashida Kamara from County Connections Presentation

Next meeting: June 18, 2019.

John adjourned the meeting at 3:15 pm.

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM, 500 Ellinwood Way, Pleasant Hill

John Roe, Chair

The Contra Costa County In-Home Supportive Services Advisory Committee is appointed by the Board of Supervisors to provide ongoing advice and recommendations regarding in home supportive services to the Public Authority. Any comments or recommendations made by the Committee or its members do not represent the official position of the County or any of the County's officers.