

**IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES (IHSS) ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TO THE KERN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS****MINUTES****Thursday, November 17, 2022 - 1:30 P.M.****Via Zoom**

The meeting was called to order at 1:33 p.m. by Chair Kaye Davis. The flag salute was conducted, followed by a moment of silence.

ROLL CALL: (*Chairman, **Vice-Chair, ***Secretary [non-voting])

Present:

*Kaye Davis	At-Large Care Provider
Gail Lancaster	Third District Consumer Representative
***Jeremy Oliver	Aging and Adult Services
Judy Snyder	Commission on Aging

Excused Absences:

Robin Freeman	Private Industry Representative
DeAnna Lewis	At-Large Consumer
**Evelyn Lopez	Individual Provider Representative
NickoleRenee Mensch	Second District Consumer Representative
Eric Nisbett	County Administration Office Representative

QUORUM

Jeremy Oliver confirmed a quorum was not present.

Aging and Adult Services Staff:

Michele Gomez, Program Manager
Laura Juarez, Senior Office Services Specialist

INTRODUCTION OF PUBLIC AND NEW MEMBERS:

Vivian Anfos, United Domestic Workers Union, Kern County

Guests:

None.

ACTION ITEMS:

- **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 15, 2022** – The minutes were tabled to January's meeting due to no quorum.
- **APPROVAL OF 2023 IHSS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE** - The minutes were tabled to January's meeting due to no quorum.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

None.

COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS OR REPORTS:

- **Appointment Report** – Jeremy Oliver
 - **Reappointments:** None.
 - **New appointments:** None.
 - **Expired appointments:** None.
 - **Appointments soon to expire:** None.
 - **Resignations:** None.
 - **Vacancies:** There are 3 Consumer vacancies:
 - 1 in Supervisorial District 1
 - 1 in Supervisorial District 4
 - 1 in Supervisorial District 5

New Applications: None.

AGING AND ADULT SERVICES STAFF REPORTS:**IHSS Report - Michele Gomez:**

In October, the Department had their annual Monitoring Review by the California Department of Social Services where they look at their processes in IHSS and their documentation. The Department received a very positive report and shared that Kern County strives to provide good quality services. One of the things they look at after receiving this report is to determine if there's a need for additional training of staff, changes in policies, or in directives. Our caseloads are increasing. Currently we have 10,916 cases in IHSS. There are approximately 9,500 active providers. Intakes continue to increase by a monthly average of 750-850 cases. Even with the increase in cases, we are at 93% in compliance with processing intakes. We are still working on the process of

streamlining where we can. The Backup Provider System (BUPS) is an available list of backup providers when they are needed to ensure clients are still taken care of when their primary provider isn't available.

Interim Director's Report – Jeremy Oliver:

FEDERAL

October noted an extension of the Public Health Emergency related to COVID-19. We are awaiting a lifting of the emergency and have been told there would be at least 60 days prior notice. Additionally, awaiting the final results of the elections to see the makeup of the new House and Senate.

STATE

Governor Newsom has declared that the COVID-19 state of emergency will be lifted at the end of February 2023. All should see additional program requirements returning to pre-pandemic operations. This impacts Medi-Cal redeterminations and IHSS annual reassessments. Please be sure that if someone has received requests from Medi-Cal that they submit the required paperwork to maintain their benefits.

Locally

County Election results currently indicate that measure K has a narrow lead to pass. This is a 1% sales tax in the county areas similar to the tax increase that occurred in Bakersfield. These funds can be directed to increase services for the county.

The Department received a report from the Grand Jury regarding Aging & Adult Services "Senior Care Services". Highlights of the report are that the Grand Jury would like to see more public promotion of the Department and services that align with the Department such as Greater Bakersfield Legal Assistance (GBLA) and Community Action Partnership of Kern (CAPK or 2-1-1). Additionally, they would like to see that the call wait times for the CAPK program be reduced and ongoing partnership with the Board of Supervisors and Department on planning for senior needs. The full report is available through the Grand Jury and a copy will be placed in the lobby of AASD.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None.

OPERATIONAL ISSUES:

County Counsel is holding an Ethics Training today at 3 p.m. via Microsoft Teams. If you are due to take the Ethics Training course this year, please attend today's session or online at www.ca-ilg.org/abc123compliance. Please provide a copy of your certificate to Laura Juarez.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting is scheduled for January 19, 2023, at 1:30 p.m., via Zoom. Contact Laura Juarez at 661-868-1052 for the link to join via Zoom.

The meeting adjourned at 1:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeremy Oliver, Secretary

JO/lj