

**IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES (IHSS) ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TO THE KERN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS****MINUTES****Thursday, May 16, 2024 - 1:30 P.M.****Kern County Aging and Adult Services Department
5357 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93309**

The meeting was called to order at 1:33 p.m. by Chair 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
Sonia Dhillon	Private Industry Representative
Anabel Hernandez	Commissioner on Aging Representative
**Gail Lancaster	Third District Consumer Representative
NickoleRenee Mensch	Second District Consumer Representative
Eric Nisbett	County Administration Office Representative
***Jeremy Oliver	Aging and Adult Services

Excused Absences:

DeAnna Lewis	At-Large Consumer
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QUORUM

Jeremy Oliver confirmed a quorum was present.

Aging and Adult Services Staff:

Michele Gomez, Program Director for IHSS
Laura Juarez, Office Services Coordinator

INTRODUCTION OF PUBLIC:

John Rozo, United Domestic Workers Representative
Ana Alonso, Community Member
Ananely Romero, Community Member

GROUND  BOUNDLESS

ACTION ITEMS:

- **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MARCH 21, 2024** – The minutes were approved as presented.
Motioned: Lancaster; **Second:** Hernandez; **Abstained:** Mensch; **Opposed:** None. **Motion carried.**
- **VOTE FOR NEW OFFICERS (CHAIR & VICE-CHAIR)** – Ballots were distributed, and votes taken for Chair and Vice-Chair. The results of the vote are as follows:
 1. Chair: Gail Lancaster
 2. Vice-Chair: Kaye Davis

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

None.

COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS OR REPORTS:

- **Appointment Report** – Jeremy Oliver
 - **Reappointments:** None.
 - **New appointments:**
 1. Anabel Hernandez, appointed by the Board of Supervisors to represent the Kern County Commission on Aging.
 - **Expired appointments:** None.
 - **Appointments soon to expire:**
 1. Kaye Davis – Term expires 06/30/2024
 2. NickoleRenee Mensch – Term expires 06/30/2024
 3. Eric Nisbett - Term expires 06/30/2024

Laura will send reappointment letters on their behalf.

- **Resignations:** None.
- **Vacancies:** There are 4 vacancies:
 1. Consumer in Supervisorial District 1, term expires 06/30/2024.
 2. Consumer in Supervisorial District 4, term expires 06/30/2024.
 3. Consumer in Supervisorial District 5, term expired 06/30/2023.
 4. At-Large Care Provider, Board of Supervisors, term expires 06/30/2025.
- **New Applications:**
None.

- **Ethics Training** – NickoleRenee Mensch is requesting assistance from Digital Divide with accessing the Ethics Training. Laura will send a referral to the Digital Divide team.

AGING AND ADULT SERVICES STAFF REPORTS:

Director's Report –Jeremy Oliver:

FEDERAL

The first-time passage of the Administration of Community Living (ACL) Adult Protective Services (APS) rules will be effective June 7, 2024, with compliance by all states by May 8, 2028. This codifies minimum requirements by APS programs throughout the US. One of the rules that will likely impact this state is the mandated response timelines. Currently the state has a 10-day mandated response time frame, and the new rules mandate a 7-day. Uncertain as to the funding that will be assigned to this, but initial estimates are low, but this is a start to ongoing federal funding to support APS services nationwide.

STATE

The Governor shared the May revise which has sweeping cuts to many programs throughout the state. The Governor is proposing a two-year plan to mitigate the state budget deficits. For Fiscal Year (FY) 24-25 after using \$12.2 Billion in reserves from the rainy-day fund there is deficit of \$27.6 billion and for FY 25-26 there is a \$28.4 billion shortfall. The programs that have direct impacts to the department are:

IHSS:

- Removes IHSS eligibility for undocumented Medi-Cal recipients.
- Eliminates funding for the IHSS back-up provider system effective fiscal year 24-25.

Area Agency on Aging:

- Cuts 37.2 million in Older Californians Modernization Act funding for FY 24-25 and again in FY25-26 for a total of 74 million over the two years, and again in 26-27 for a total of 111 million.
- Additional cuts in Older Adult Behavioral Health in the amount of \$30 million.

Actual budget impacts will remain to be seen as the Legislature will make offers to revise the proposed cuts, but the timeline is expected to be very quick as they try to beat the June 15, deadlines.

DEPARTMENT

The Department continues to work on the budget given the recent news just shared. May was proclaimed Older Americans Month. On May 18, 2024, Aging & Adult Services will host a resource fair at their office and welcome everyone to attend.

As a reminder, the month of June will be Elder Abuse Awareness Month and we have our Elder Abuse Conference scheduled for June 13, 2024, at the Doubletree.

IHSS Report – Michele Gomez:

Michele reported the following report:

Kern Compliance Rates.

- Applications processed within 90 days is 79.8% for the year and the state standard is 80%. We are improving each month.
- Reassessments are completed timely at 95.2% for the year and the state standard is 90%. We are above state standards.
- Since January we have added 856 new recipients: 363 elderly, 274 disabled adults, and 219 minors.
- Applications received were over 900 and we see an increase of 100 applications each month.

IHSS Statistics at Glance Handout

Program Data from April 2024 provided. The casework count was 14,284 approved or authorized cases, with 1,628 pending referrals. They continue to receive several referrals. They received 957 new applications in the month of April 2024. There was an average of 156.83 hours per Severely Impaired (SI) cases, and an average of 92.07 hours per Non-Severely Impaired (NSI) cases. There are a total of 12,010 providers: 7,143 Providers live with their Recipient(s) – regardless of relationship; 8,272 Providers are related to the Recipient(s) – Regardless of where they live; 5,940 Providers are related and live with their Recipient(s). The IHSS Caseload Annual Growth is as follows:

- 2020 – 9,194 (16%)
- 2021 – 9,998 (8%)
- 2022 – 11,220 (11%)
- 2023 – 13,278 (15%)
- 2024 – 14,284 (7%)

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. **Bylaws** – A draft with suggested additions/revisions of the IHSS Advisory Committee Bylaws were handed out for review. If you have any questions or comments, please send them to the Bylaws Committee (Jeremy, Gail, Eric, and Kaye).

OPERATIONAL ISSUES:

None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- Anabel Hernandez thanked Michele Gomez for presenting at their community outreach today.
- Ana Alonso thanked Michele Gomez for addressing her concerns and stated she is happy with the outcome and appreciates her help.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting is scheduled for July 18, 2024, at 1:30 p.m., at Aging and Adult Services in the Golden Generation Conference Room, 5357 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93309.

The meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeremy Oliver, Secretary

JO/lj