

IHSS ADVISORY COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER

July 2014

Everyone Wins!

by Linda White IHSSAC Member

A sigh of relief! For over a year I have been holding my breath, waiting to see what California would do about the overtime issue for IHSS workers. We have all heard about the toll it would take on the families and workers, but now the issue has been resolved. IHSS workers will get overtime and everyone can take a deep breath and relax. The IHSS Advisory Committee has been helping make the program work for all involved, now is the time for you to help too. I have been on the Committee for over 10 years, it has been very rewarding. There will always be new things that come up, just like the overtime issue, and the more of us that get our voice heard the better. We have meetings every month, you are welcome to join us and see what we do, and get involved.

If you would like to find out more about being an IHSSAC Member please visit the Committee's Website at www.stancounty.com/IHSSAC

A link to applications is available at the site. All IHSSAC Members are appointed by the Board of Supervisors.

We are currently accepting applications for IHSS Consumers.

Budget News

On January 1, 2015, new federal regulations will take effect and IHSS Providers will be eligible for overtime.

In January 2014, the Governor released his January Budget proposal, indicating that the State would limit the amount of hours an IHSS Provider could work at 40 hours per week thereby avoiding the overtime issue. The Governor and the Legislature reached agreement on a compromise; the State will pay for a limited amount of overtime effective January 1, 2015.

While the details of how the overtime will be addressed are still being finalized, here is what is known now: IHSS Providers will be limited to 66 hours per week without exception. The 66 hour limit is subject to the 7% reduction currently in effect for IHSS Recipients so the current cap on hours is 61 hours per week.

So if an IHSS Provider has multiple Recipients they will be limited to 61 hours per week for all the Recipients they serve.

How will the overtime provision impact IHSS Recipients? The Recipient's hours will not be reduced. However, it may require some IHSS Recipients to hire an additional IHSS Provider to meet their needs.

New MOU for Stanislaus IHSS Providers

On March 25, 2014 the Board of Supervisors approved the tentative Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the United Domestic Workers of America who represent all the IHSS Providers in Stanislaus County. The complete MOU can be viewed at www.stanlink2care.org

The agreement includes three wage increases for IHSS Providers. On June 1, 2014 wages were increased from \$9.38 per hour to \$10.00 per hour. On July 1, 2014 wages increased to \$10.10 per hour. The final wage increase is scheduled for July 1, 2015 with wages increasing to \$10.20 per hour.



The health benefits were removed, as the former plan was not compliant with the new health care (Obama Care) law. If you are looking for health care coverage please contact Covered California at www.CoveredCA.com or call 800-300-1506 (toll free) to see what health care options are available for you.



Important Numbers

IHSS Intake	558-2637
IHSS Payroll	558-3976
Public Authority	558-1650
APS	558-2637

In the News

Disability Visibility Project is launching a year-long campaign to encourage Americans with disabilities to record their stories. More information can be found at their website www.disabilityvisibilityproject.com

The California 2014 State Long-Term Services and Support Scorecard is a multi-dimensional approach of system performance from the viewpoint of service users and their families. It measures things like the median annual nursing home cost, legal and system supports for family caregivers. The full report can be found at www.longtermscorecard.org

Harris v. Quinn

US Supreme Court issued the decision Harris v Quinn case. In a 5-4 ruling split the Supreme Court of the U.S. held that the First Amendment of the US Constitution prohibits the collection of an agency fee by public employee unions from home care workers who provide personal assistant care services who do not want to join or support the union. The full decision can be found at www.supremecourt.gov

