

PUBLIC AUTHORITY In-Home Supportive Services San Diego County

IHSS/PUBLIC AUTHORITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023

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SAN DIEGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Serves as IHSS Public Authority Governing Body











Nora Vargas

Joel Anderson

Terra Lawson-Remer

Vacant

Jim Desmond

District 1 Chairwoman District 2

District 3 Vice Chair District 4

District 5

IHSS/PUBLIC AUTHORITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEMBERS

- Nadine Branch Provider, Chair
- Marissa Chavez Provider, Vice Chair
- Yolanda Ivy Consumer
- Charles Kirtley Consumer
- Rusty Krumm Consumer

- Ethel Larkins AIS (Aging and Independence Services) Advisory Council Liaison
- Erica McClure Consumer
- Nicanora Montenegro Community Representative
- Angela Vittucci

 Consumer, Parliamentarian

STAFF LIAISONS

- Thomas H. Johnson IHSS Public Authority, Executive Director
- Wendy J. Garcia AIS, Deputy Director
- Charity Lerma AIS, IHSS Program Manager
- Julie Lara AIS, IHSS Program Specialist
- Ana Molina IHSS Public Authority, Administrative Secretary

A MESSAGE FROM THE

IHSS PUBLIC AUTHORITY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



On behalf of the IHSS Public Authority team, I would like to send my sincere appreciation to the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS)/Public Authority Advisory Committee for another outstanding year of representing both IHSS recipients and IHSS caregivers. The Advisory Committee continued to maintain membership at 100%, meaning everyone completed the required training and met participation requirements. This is the result of the committee leadership and diligent work with County of San Diego (County) and IHSS Public Authority staff to ensure that each vacancy was filled in a timely manner. In April 2023, the committee transitioned from virtual meetings to in-person meetings. Despite the change, members remained

committed to attending meetings and fulfilling their roles as the community voice for individuals that are elderly or disabled.

In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS)/Public Authority Advisory Committee members not only shared their input locally, but also had a state-wide presence with their participation in the California IHSS Consumer Alliance (CICA). During CICA's monthly meetings, committee members engaged in various trainings and discussions that impact IHSS recipients and IHSS caregivers. Committee members shared their professional and personal experiences with other participants and highlighted aspects of the IHSS Public Authority, IHSS program, and other services available throughout San Diego County.

The In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS)/Public Authority Advisory Committee has continued to have an active role in educating San Diego County residents about the IHSS Public Authority and the IHSS program. As a part of their engagement efforts during Fiscal Year 2022 - 2023, the committee participated in community events by staffing tables or as guest panelists. Committee members also participated in focus groups related to service delivery and the recruitment and retention of caregivers.

In each case, committee members were able to lend their expertise either as IHSS recipients or IHSS caregivers. Committee members were featured speakers as a part of the 2022 IHSS Public Authority/United Domestic Workers Caregiver Appreciation Event. This event had 520 caregivers in attendance and the IHSS/Public Authority Advisory Committee Chair and Vice Chair were able to provide an overview of the purpose of the Advisory Committee, discuss their participation at community events, outline various training opportunities, explain the membership process, and provide meeting information. The committee has also been featured in the County Health and Human Services Agency, Aging & Independence Services (AIS) Quarterly Newsletter. One of the members was profiled for a cover article regarding her experience as an IHSS caregiver, with an IHSS recipient she has worked with for over 20- years. These efforts continue to allow members to not only promote the committee, but also bring awareness to the services offered by the IHSS Public Authority and the IHSS program.

The Advisory Committee continues to display its positive impact. The committee has a significant role in helping to ensure the IHSS program meets the needs of recipients and caregivers. Members continue to be the community voice for some of San Diego county's most vulnerable populations. Their efforts in helping to improve IHSS service delivery is commendable. On behalf of the IHSS Public Authority and the individuals we serve, I want to thank the committee members for helping to make sure elderly or disabled residents in San Diego County can live safely in their own homes!

Sincerely,

Sincere, Thomas H. Johnson **Executive Director IHSS Public Authority**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PURPOSE, AUTHORITY, & MEMBERSHIP



The Advisory Committee is advisory in nature and is not empowered by ordinance, establishing authority, or policy to render a decision of any kind on behalf of the County of San Diego, the IHSS Public Authority, or its appointed or elected officials.

California Welfare and Institutions Code section 12301.6 provides that each county shall appoint an Advisory Committee where the board of supervisors is the governing body. The Advisory Committee has nine members in which not less than fifty-one percent (51%) of the individuals are current or past users of personal assistance services paid for through public or private funds or as recipients of In-Home Supportive Services. The Advisory Committee provides advice and recommendations to the San Diego County Board of Supervisors, Governing Body, and other persons or entities related to the delivery of the In-Home Supportive Services and IHSS Public Authority services. The Advisory Committee is a non-partisan, non-sectarian, non-profit making organization. It does not take part officially in, nor does it lend its influence on political issues.



ADVISORY COMMITTEE

OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

The Advisory Committee was focused on learning about community partners and resources, which led to several presentations throughout the year including:

- San Diego County Emergency Services
- State Council of Developmental Disabilities
- IHSS Overview San Diego County IHSS
- Career Pathways IHSS Public Authority
- Alzheimer's Research Sharp Health Care
- Services Overview San Diego Regional Center
- Medicaid Policy & Programs Outreach Aurrera Health Group
- Provider's Perspective IHSS/Public Authority Advisory Committee
- Disability Awareness and Etiquette Training Resources for Independence
- Take Me Home and YANA Program San Diego County Sheriff's Department-
- Therapeutic Recreation Services County of San Diego, Department of Parks and Recreation



The Advisory Committee meets on the 2nd Friday of each month.

In Fiscal Year 2022-2023, In-Home Supportive Services/Public Authority activities and services continued to be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the committee began to transition from virtual meetings to inperson/hybrid meetings as authorized by the State and County guidelines.



ADVISORY COMMITTEE

FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Presented at the 2022 Annual IHSS Public Authority/UDW Caregiver Appreciation Event that was attended by 520 caregivers

Maintained membership at 100%

IHSS Public Authority provided iPads to committee members to enable access to technology for meeting purposes.





Completed the required (AB1234) Ethics Training with 100% completion rate.

Maintained active participation in the California In-Home Supportive Services Consumer Alliance, which included consumer advocacy training

The committee was featured in the quarterly AIS Newsletter. In addition, one member, also an IHSS Provider was featured with her IHSS Recipient.

ADVISORY COMMITTEEFISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 GOALS

- Work with AIS Outreach and Education team to increase the public's awareness of the In-Home Supportive Services program, the requirements for qualification, and the overall process of how to access services
- Create quarterly support group for recipients and/or caregivers to openly share their challenges and provide feedback or resources needed to address their concerns.
- Explore ways to train recipients of care and help them be more confident in their role as employers.
- Arrange and/or have committee members attend trainings (such as Advocacy, Legislative, etc.) to help them become more effective in their roles.
- Increase methods of informing recipients and caregivers of the upcoming IHSS/Public Authority Advisory Committee meetings.
- Continue to be featured quarterly in the AIS newsletter to expand outreach countywide in various media platforms.
- Pursue potential partnerships with the Department on Developmental Disabilities Services (DDS) and Home Community Base Services (HCBS) to keep them up to date on IHSS program related information and resources.





