

**IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES/PUBLIC AUTHORITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**February 14, 2025, 12:45 PM**

**County Operations Center**  
**5560 Overland Ave**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Room 171**  
**San Diego, CA**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8597078275?pwd=bFkxa2tGMGJvL0xLNU5xS3RrYlZrdz09>

Meeting ID: 859 707 8275

Passcode: 172598

<b>1. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 12:56 PM.</b>			
<b>2. Attendance</b>			
Members		Excused Members	Guests
Nadine Branch Yolanda Ivy Angela Vittucci Blanca Paulin Nicanora Montenegro			Cindy Greatrex Kate Kinnamont- SDRC Melissa Barling
Members via Zoom	AIS/IHSS Staff	IHSS Public Authority	Guest – via Zoom
Charles Kirtley	Abigail Salud Gilberto Contreras- Morales	Thomas H. Johnson Ana Molina	Aisha Warsame – UDW Russell Evans Carrie Humphrey Don Howard Erica McClure Ethel Larkins Lan Chung Elsie Campos - IHSS Belquis Lynn Carr Sam Sonnich
Item	Outcome/Discussion		Action Items
<b>3. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM:</b> Done.			
<b>4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:</b> Done.			
<b>5. INTRODUCTIONS:</b> Everyone in attendance introduced themselves.			
<b>6. MEETING CODE OF CONDUCT REVIEW:</b> Yolanda reviewed the code of conduct.			
<b>7. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:</b> Nicanora motioned to approve the agenda with the change of adding the San Diego Regional Center (SDRC) report. Yolanda Seconded it. <b>Motion passed.</b>			
<b>8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:</b> Yolanda motioned to approve. Charles seconded it. Nicanora abstained from voting due to her absence at the previous meeting. <b>Motion passed.</b>			

**9. Public Authority (PA) Report:** Thomas reported that Ana Molina, his Executive Assistant and Committee Liaison, was promoted to an Operations Analyst position within the Public Authority (PA). He also announced that her back-up committee liaison, Elisa Garcia, was also promoted to an Operations Analyst. Thomas said the PA is planning an Open House, with an August or September 2025 timeframe. PA staff and community partners would be invited. Thomas said the PA would be presenting at upcoming UDW membership meetings. Various PA departments will be participating, including the Registry and Provider Services. Thomas shared Registry caregiver recruitment reports , from July 2024 to January 2025, that showed the number of Registry caregivers increased from 2,208 to 2,555 (which was a 14% increase), Thomas informed the committee that “word of mouth” is the greatest recruitment tool. He said the PA is considering high school students in their efforts to add additional caregivers and provide students with an entry-level opportunity into the healthcare field. The PA staff met with a teacher that works in the Grossmont School District, where they have a healthcare program that teaches practical job skills. Thomas said an obstacle with recruiting high school students is the need for job permits, which requires them to have an existing position before applying. Thomas said he was selected as one of two Executive Directors from the PA to participate in the State-wide Collective Bargaining Meeting on behalf of the California Association of Public Authorities (CAPA). This meeting will explore whether the State should take over bargaining responsibilities with the union or if the Public Authorities should continue to do so. Nadine asked about opting into tax deductions once a caregiver has opted out. Thomas said that while the PA cannot give tax advice, PA staff can reach out to anyone requesting assistance with updating their information for tax purposes. He also said he would send out some resource materials from the PA. Erica McClure commented that she agrees with bringing awareness to caregiving as early as High School. She said when her son was in school, they had some challenges getting the support they needed. Erica says there needs to be connections formed, ongoing outreach, and training for the teachers. Thomas agreed that more awareness was needed regarding IHSS and the services the Public Authority offers. . Russell Evans said he was told that the 2014-7 tax exemption form was the one that would need to be filled out to make changes to the exemption status. He said that they failed to file the SOC2298, therefore the taxes were not taken out of their checks. Thomas closed out his updated by reviewing the committees’ financial report.

**10. CHAIR REPORT:** Nadine informed the committee of the Safeguard American Voter Eligibility (SAVE) Act being introduced to Congress. She said if passed, it has the potential to restrict women, whose driver’s licenses and passports don’t match their birth certificates, from voting. The act also aims to get people to register to vote in person. She said the act would require citizens to provide a birth certificate or a passport to prove their citizenship. Currently more than 140 million Americans do not possess a current passport, and over 60 million women have identifications that do not match their birth certificates.

**Presentation – CalAIM: Samantha Sonnich MPH, Health Planning & Program Specialist & Lynn Carr, Chief, Agency Operations – Medical Care Services and Innovating Medi-Cal (SDAIM)** Lynn Carr discussed the implementation of the Medical Transformation (CalAIM) program. She highlighted the program's focus on vulnerable populations and its aim to address physical, behavioral health needs, and social support needs. The discussion also covered the Enhanced Care Management (ECM) and Community Support Services, which are new benefits under the program. Samantha elaborated on ECM, explaining it as a 1-on-1 case management service for 12 months, contracted by community-based organizations. She also mentioned that the program is for people with Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans and that there are nine populations of focus eligible for this service. Lynn and Sam discussed the benefits of Enhanced Care Management and Community Support Services, which Medi-Cal now covers through managed care plans. These services include housing navigation, housing deposits, housing tenancy services, short-term post-hospitalization

housing, recuperative care, day habilitation programs, respite services, nursing facility transition, personal care and homemaker services, home modifications, medically tailored meals, asthma remediation, and sobering center. Lynn clarified that these services are not meant to duplicate existing services like IHSS, but to fill gaps and provide additional support. She also mentioned that these services can be accessed through the managed care plans, and that the managed care plans have their own referral forms. Samantha then introduced a list of providers contracted with the health plans to provide these services, which can be found on the 2-1-1 San Diego website. Samantha and Lynn discussed the availability of their services on their website, which are also translated into eight languages. They encouraged collaboration with disability rights organizations and provided their contact information for further discussions and questions.

**11. REPORTS**

A. AIS Council	Nadine reported that she would be contacting the Aging & Independence (AIS) Chair, to find out if they will appoint someone new to the committee to replace the former appointee, Ethel Larkins.	
B. Membership	Gilberto reported that he would be scheduling interviews for potential members Carrie Humphrey and Russell Evans, for consumer vacancies.	
C. IHSS	Abigail reported that she attended the AIS Council Meeting. She said the IHSS team had a presentation, and CalAIM was a presenter as well. Abigail said the social worker positions are filled, and there is one supervisor vacancy (in which they are in the interview stage of the process). . She said there have been a total of six fires and they contacted fifty-one IHSS recipients that had been impacted. Abigail introduced Social Work Supervisors Yoli David and Elsie Campos. Yolanda Ivy commented that in the past, she has been questioned about her personal assets by social workers. Abigail responded that IHSS does not have income eligibility. Erica informed Yolanda that there is an appeals process if she is denied services. Melissa Barling informed the committee that legal aid is a great resource.	
D. Community Report	Nicanora Montenegro asked the members to check their email for emails from Ana. Nicanora reported that last February, there was a Spread the Love Pre-Valentine’s Day party. The event was held in honor of individuals with developmental disabilities and was sponsored by Sam Kambo and Royal Banquet. Other collaboration partners included the Filipino American Association for Developmental Disabilities (FADD), the TLC, and Mission2Help. Participants were able to sing, dance and share their talents. Nicanora says she is participating in a training program funded by the Department of Education and the Department of Economic Opportunity in Los Angeles. She said the training benefits caregivers in Los Angeles and is held online and in person. It covers subjects such as working with people with Alzheimer’s, diabetes, epilepsy, and those who have suffered a stroke or heart attack. She said their target is to train one hundred caregivers and,	

	so far, 46 have been trained. There are classes offered in Spanish and Tagalog.	
E. CICA	Nadine reported that The California IHSS Consumer Alliance (CICA) is working to acquire funding for training for IHSS recipients. She said she attended a training on 2/5/2025, in which the topic was "How to Interact with the Board of Supervisors". She said there is a new bill, AB259 by Blanca Rubio, that supports extending flexibility for remote meeting participation. California Alliance for Retired Americans (CARA) had a Southern Region meeting for their various task forces and San Diego, Los Angeles, Orange County, and San Fernando Valley were all in attendance.	
F. UDW	No update.	
G. SDRC	Kate Kinnamon reported on the collaboration between IHSS and the San Diego Regional Center (SDRC). She says there have been good conversations about understanding each other's systems. Kate said that effective January 2025, according to SB138, the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) requires the use of a standardized Individual Program Plan (IPP). Kate informed the group that the document is used by IHSS. She added that the document is strengths-based, therefore it will not reflect the challenges of the individuals. Kate said her team would be giving presentations to IHSS staff, including information on the DDS waiver. She says there has been some talk about cuts to Medicaid and all systems that rely on CMS. Kate said that no decisions have been made, and she encourages participants to monitor the situation. She also stated that participants should contact their representatives and advocate for the protection of all Medicaid services.	
<b>12. Old Business (discussion and possible action):</b>		
<b>A. Committee Events:</b>		
1. Nadine said last month she participated in the Martin Luther King Jr. Day parade . She said she was also able to attend the George Stevens Center Event. Nadine said Secretary of State, Dr. Shirley Weber, was the guest speaker. Nadine said she hopes to be able to participate in the upcoming Juneteenth event. She said she would also like to focus on community events in the Chula Vista and the South Bay area.		
<b>13. New Business (discussion and possible action):</b>		
<b>A. Parliamentary Vote:</b> Nadine reviewed the definition of a parliamentarian and explained the role to the group. Blanca Paulin said that it is a very serious role, and she thinks whoever serves as one could benefit from training. Nadine asked Ana to research trainings for parliamentarians and report back with her findings.		
<b>14. MEMBER COMMENT:</b> Blanca informed the committee that she attended the CICA meeting, and they discussed online committee participation. She said she also attended a presentation by Defy Dementia. The group provided information on how social isolation can negatively impact dementia due to a drop-in cognitive activity. Blanca said that if participants know someone who spends their time in isolation, she encourages their loved ones to get involved in helping them be social. Blanca shared that she has completed her ethics training (AB1234). She said she also picked up her caregiver badge at Department of General Services, located at 5560 Overland Ave, San Diego, CA 92123.		

**15. PUBLIC COMMENT:** Ethel Larkins commented that she was a Chapter President of a Union, and that is why she received parliamentarian training. She added that UDW negotiated for the caregiver badges, and that they can only be issued at the Overland location. Erica said that the Special Education Law Advocacy Series (SELAS) training is coming up soon. She informed participants who are interested that communications would be sent out in early to mid-March 2025.

**16. NEXT MEETING AGENDA: 3/14/2025**

**17. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 3:04 PM**

**Minutes prepared by Nadine Branch, Thomas H. Johnson, and Ana Molina**