

**IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES/PUBLIC AUTHORITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**August 8, 2025, 12:45 PM**

**South Region Livewell Center**  
**401 Mile of Cars Way**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Training Room 2086**  
**National City, CA 91950**

<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 12:51 PM.</b>			
<b>2. Attendance</b>			
<b>Members</b>		<b>Absent Members</b>	<b>Guests</b>
Nadine Branch Yolanda Ivy Angela Vittucci Blanca Paulin	Nicanora Montenegro		Cindy Greatrex Cesar & Jovita Javier
<b>Members via Zoom</b>	<b>AIS/IHSS Staff</b>	<b>IHSS Public Authority</b>	<b>Guest – via Zoom</b>
Russell Evans Sabrina Bishop Charles Kirtley	Maribel Gallegos Julie Lara Kelly Auimatagi Vosa Cecilia Castro	Thomas H. Johnson Ana Molina Denise Bernal Leonardo Madrigal Meredith McCarthy	Thunder Walker Erica McClure
<b>3. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM: Done.</b>			
<b>4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Done.</b>			
<b>5. INTRODUCTIONS: Everyone in attendance introduced themselves.</b>			
<b>6. MEETING CODE OF CONDUCT REVIEW: Angela reviewed the code of conduct.</b>			
<b>7. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Nicanora suggested amending the agenda by removing the UDW and Live Well Events. Nadine motioned to amend the agenda, and Angela seconded. The amended agenda was approved and motioned by Yolanda, and Charles seconded. <b>Motion passed.</b></b>			
<b>8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Nadine motioned to approve the minutes with a correction made to a date that was listed as 20025 and should be 2025. <b>Nadine motioned; Angela seconded. Motion passed.</b></b>			
<b>9. CHAIR REPORT: Nicanora shared that on 7/10/2025, she attended a Non-Violent Direct Action Plan Training organized by the California Labor Federation in response to ICE actions, which was attended by more than 1,700 people at LA Convention Center. She said the same event will be conducted at the San Diego Convention Center on 8/19/2025 hosted by the UCSD Labor Center. Nicanora invited everyone to attend. She also shared some information about the CICA Lunch-N-Learn on 7/15/2025 as an alternate and in support of Yolanda who could hardly talk due to recent stroke. Nicanora says she attended the Filipino American Friendship Day Celebration on 7/19/2025, which was well attended by many, and that it would be a good opportunity for the IHSS/PA Advisory Committee to have a table there</b>			

next year. She further shared that on 7/22/2025, Chair Pro Tem Paloma Aguirre was sworn in as District 1 Board of Supervisors Member and that in her speech, she emphasized the importance of caregivers as essential workers, therefore must be honored with respect and dignity. Nicanora also attended the San Diego County Registrar of Voters, Combined Language Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting, representing the National Federation of Filipino American Associations, and the Registrar of Voters confirmed that Paloma Aguirre won the election. She also shared that on 8/2/2025, the People’s Church hosted a Summer Market Event, and that the Kubo Collective Event was on 8/5/2025 in National City.

**10. Presentation: Individualized Education Plan (IEP) by Thunder Walker.**

Thunder presented the Individual Education Plan (IEPs) and its importance for children with disabilities. She covered the legal process, assessment procedures, and available resources for parents and families. Thunder discussed how IEPs can benefit individuals with disabilities throughout their lives. She explained that IEPs are legal documents that outline goals and responsibilities for parents, children, and the community, and can remain relevant even after high school graduation. Thunder emphasized the need for community involvement in supporting individuals with disabilities, including sharing IEPs with local businesses and ensuring accessibility. She also advised attendees to advocate for their loved ones if they are not satisfied with their progress and to utilize technology and their own skills to support the process. Thunder detailed the steps involved in challenging decisions, including annual review meetings and the possibility of filing a due process claim if dissatisfied. She also highlighted the availability of State and Federal resources, such as the San Diego Regional Center and Social Security benefits. Thunder encouraged self-advocacy, while noting that professional help can be sought if needed. She clarified the distinction between assessments and diagnoses for learning challenges, explaining that while schools can identify challenges, medical diagnoses, such as "other health impairments," require a doctor or therapist. Thunder emphasized the importance of annual reassessments for children with special needs, noting that many disabilities are lifelong and early intervention can make a significant difference.

**11. REPORTS**

<p>A. Aging and Independence Services (AIS) Council</p>	<p>Sabrina shared that the AIS Council is on recess for the month of August, but is actively managing all events coming their way. She said they have consistently met in smaller subcommittees to make improvements. Cesar asked about volunteering and requested information on becoming a member of the AIS Council.</p>	
<p>B. Membership</p>	<p>Julie said that Gilberto has been attempting to fill the recipient vacancies, and he has been contacted by people who have expressed interest in joining the committee. She shared that there is a new process for the letters to go out to new members, and it has taken a little longer than usual, but letters are being sent.</p>	
<p>C. IHSS</p>	<p>Maribel shared that IHSS is fully staffed. She shared that in July, they contacted 80 clients who were impacted by the fires to share resources with them. Maribel said that all IHSS staff participated in a training called Linguistic Diversity, which aimed to understand how accents play a role in effective communication. She shared that there will be a presentation to the Caregiver Coalition of San Diego on 8/29/2025. Maribel introduced two supervisors: Kelly Auimatagi Vosa and Cecilia Castro.</p>	

D. Community Report	Nicanora shared that a Family Picnic of the Filipino American Association for Development Disabilities is on 8/30/2025. Flyers were printed by Denise for distribution. Many attendees in that event are IHSS providers and their clients. She announced that the Pilipino Workers Center (PWC) will be having a Disaster and Risk Preparedness training on 9/19/2025. Nicanora shared pamphlets and marketing materials, including worker's rights pocket guide.	
E. California IHSS Consumer Alliance (CICA)	Nicanora shared that the topic discussed was the Americans with Disabilities Act, signed by George W. Bush in 1990, which provides protections to people with disabilities and equal opportunities. She said they mostly focused on one of the titles of the Act, which is public accommodation. Nadine said she will be emailing Denise the slides that were presented, so they can be forwarded to the committee and anyone else interested. She shared that there are many Counties without committees, and CICA will explore ways to help. Nadine said term limits were also discussed on whether four years is too short, and Nicanora suggested reviewing the bylaws at the next Advisory Committee meeting.	
F. San Diego Regional Center	No Updates.	
G. Public Authority (PA)	Thomas informed the committee that the IHSS/PA Advisory Committee's Annual Report is currently being prepared. Ana shared that event details and photos are being gathered, and the report's layout is being designed. Thomas shared that once it is finalized, the report will be presented to the committee for feedback. He said that the previously requested list of acronyms related to county terminology is being updated and will be shared with the committee. Thomas shared that Lisa Jordan, who is currently a Supervisor in the Registry Department, will be promoted to Provider Services Manager at the PA starting 8/11/2025. He also mentioned that he will be meeting with the San Diego County Board of Supervisors and/or their Board Aides to provide an overview of the PA and the agency's work. The Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) and AIS staff will also participate in these meetings. Thomas shared that the office of Economic Development and Government Affairs (EDGA) continues to update the Board of Supervisors, County, and PA staff on Federal funding initiatives and any potential impacts on Medi-Cal or Medicaid services. He mentioned that a formal invite will be extended to the IHSS/PA Advisory Committee to participate in the PA's virtual Caregiver Recognition event happening on 11/18/2025. Thomas also said that if anyone on the committee would like to invite a guest speaker, please inform him. Nadine asked if one of the topics could be more caregiver-related, and Thomas mentioned that they could potentially invite a speaker who	

	promotes caregiver well-being. He also reviewed the Advisory Committee's financial report.	
<p><b>12. Old Business (discussion and possible action):</b>  <b>A. Committee Events:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Senator Weber Pierson's Backpack Giveaway (7/12/2025)-</b> Nadine shared that the event was well attended.</li> <li><b>2. UDW Membership Meeting (8/16/2025) –</b> Nadine shared that she will be attending and sharing a space with Aude from the Registry Department of the PA at this event.</li> <li><b>3. California Area Agency on Aging (C4A) Conference – Garden Grove, CA (11/5/2025 to 11/7/2025) –</b> Discussions took place about committee attendance at the upcoming C4A conference. <b>Yolanda motioned to send Nadine to the conference. Blanca Seconded. Motion Passed.</b></li> </ol>		
<p><b>New Business (discussion and possible action): No Updates</b></p>		
<p><b>13. PUBLIC COMMENT:</b> Cesar Javier and Jovita Javier commented that toxicity from ceramic products was being produced in their neighborhood. Nicanora suggested reaching out to environmental organizations regarding this issue. Erica McClure commented on Thunder's presentation about Child Find, where a teacher can identify a child's unique learning challenges. She mentioned how it is the parents' role to educate themselves and seek help because sometimes a child can be overlooked. Cindy thanked Denise for continuing to forward emails shared with her by the committee, which provided valuable information.</p>		
<p><b>14. MEMBER COMMENT:</b> Angela mentioned concern for the caregiver's texting while working with a recipient and asked if that is covered in the training. Thomas shared that it is part of the caregiver training provided by the PA Registry, and he will follow up with that department to continue emphasizing professional behavior guidelines for caregivers during work hours. Blanca shared that she attended the "Healing Through Nature" presentation at the San Diego National History Museum. She mentioned she was given four free tickets for participating and a \$25 gift card. Nadine shared that Lisa Jordan facilitated a PA "Small Talk" Registry caregiver support group, which happens on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month. She shared that Lisa provided valuable information related to caregivers and was very engaging. Nadine says she was happy to hear about Lisa's promotion and is hopeful that more people will be able to participate in these events. She also shared about the Center of Excellence for Aging and Longevity (CEAL), which hosts different webinars. Nadine said that she would forward some information to Denise about the group's discussions, which can then be shared with everyone on the email distribution list. She said they are having an in-person event on 8/28/2025, and it will be hosted at the PA offices in National City.</p>		
<p><b>15. NEXT MEETING AGENDA: 9/12/2025</b></p>		
<p><b>16. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 3:13 PM</b></p>		

**Minutes prepared by Nicanora Montenegro, Thomas H. Johnson, and Denise Bernal**