

IHSS Public Authority Advisory Board Meeting

June 16, 2026

MINUTES

ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETINGS for All/Guests:

Pre-Registration is required.

Join Zoom Meeting:

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**This meeting is being recorded for purposes of capturing the meeting minutes.*

Members Present: Mathew Lubinsky; Janie Whiteford; Joanna Kent; Narendra Pathak; David Forderer; Michele Mashburn; Natascha Walker; Joyce Felix-Builes (via Zoom), Michelle Findley (Ex-Officio)

Members Absent: N/A

PA Staff Present: Edith Gong; Leticia Sabadin

Guests Present (Virtual & In-Person): Steve Kline, Board Aide for Supervisor Ellenberg; Henry H.K. Fogbawah, Assistant to David Forderer; Desmond John, Assistant to David Forderer; Angelina Soria, PA Registry Manager; Ryan Gallagher, PA Enrollment Manager

Announcements & Public Comment:

- Narendra shared meeting attendance at Human Rights Commission, SCFHP and VTA Boards.
 - There are many discussions about the budget crisis. The usage of VTA and bus transportation is high, and it is expected to be very busy with the upcoming World Cup Matches, some of which will be local here in the Bay Area.
- David was asking for updates on the California state budget.
 - Members discussed the California state budget, noting that the Legislature had sent the reconciled budget to the Governor. The board expressed concern about possible changes affecting IHSS, Medi-Cal, asset limits, and related programs while awaiting the Governor's final decisions.
- Michele Mashburn asked about the Residual Program. The program will continue but perhaps with a time limit of 90-120 days.
 - BUPS (Back Up Provider System) is still intact for now.
- There were significant discussions focused on Medi-Cal renewals and recertification issues, including:
 - Notices arriving after deadlines.
 - Confusing eligibility and documentation requirements.
 - Consumers losing coverage before problems can be corrected.
 - Concerns that county and state staff are not consistently trained on disability accommodations and reasonable accommodation requirements.
 - Calls for improved communication and more streamlined processes.

- Members discussed the impact of disability recertification requirements, especially for people with permanent disabilities. There was support for legislative efforts that would reduce repeated documentation for individuals with permanent, non-improving conditions and simplify eligibility processes.

Approval of Minutes:

- Motion by Narendra Pathak to approve the May 19, 2026 meeting minutes; seconded by David Forderer, vote was unanimous.

Chair (Joanna) Updates:

- The board began planning its annual recommendation letter to the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors. Major themes included:
 - Requesting sufficient staffing and administrative support to manage increasing paperwork and workload.
 - Continuing regular dialogue with the Board of Supervisors, their aides and county leadership.
 - Supporting advocacy around IHSS, Medi-Cal, and implementation of new state and federal requirements.
 - Improving collaboration among county agencies and community partners.
 - (this is more State wide related) -- Supporting caregivers after a consumer dies or is hospitalized. Some compensation or additional sick time possibly.
- Developing advisory board strategic planning, recruitment, branding, and governance improvements, including work toward a board mission statement and logo.
 - Monique Parrish from LifeCore Strategies will be contacting the board members for interviews in the near future.

Side notes:

- Edith shared that she has asked for assistance in doing the Annual Report.
 - ✓ She also said that even though she is no longer employed with PA, she would like to come to board meetings and that she is happy to help in any way.
 - ✓ Positive budget news, including an increase in Public Authority administrative funding of 8%.
- Improving outreach and education about CalSavers retirement benefits for IHSS providers.
- Exploring grants and community funding opportunities for outreach events.
- Once again, Edith announced her upcoming retirement from the Public Authority Director position and committed herself to continuing to support the advisory board after retirement. Board members thanked Edith for years of leadership and advocacy.
- Joanna mentioned and wanted to say Congratulations to Angelina Soria for accepting an award next month for Project Butterfly.

Advocacy Updates:

- Continued testimony at state budget hearings to oppose IHSS and Medi-Cal reductions.
- Meetings with legislators regarding healthcare funding and IHSS protections.
- Ongoing monitoring of state budget negotiations and federal policy changes.
- Encouragement for board members to participate in statewide advocacy calls focused on systemic issues rather than individual cases.

Santa Clara Family Health Plan Report:

- Joyce reported that recruitment is underway to fill a vacant position.

- Temporary personal care homemaker services have returned to broader eligibility.
- Members waiting for IHSS approval can again receive temporary caregiver support through the health plan while awaiting IHSS services, although long-term funding remains a concern.
- Referral forms can be submitted through the provider portal or through the SCFHP website.

California IHSS Consumer Alliance (CICA) Report:

- Janie reported that CICA has been very busy advocating up in San Francisco at the budget hearings.
- CICA meetings are on the first and third Mondays of the month. CICA monthly call is scheduled for tomorrow, June 17th.

SEIU 2015 Report:

- Natascha reported that they had bargaining meetings recently and they have one caucus meeting and one formal meeting with the county.
- Lobbying activities going on.

Social Services Agency – IHSS Report:

- Michelle Findley reported on substantial workload pressures.
- Social workers currently manage more than 400 cases each.
- The program is seeking additional social workers, supervisors, managers, and clerical staff.
- The department is reorganizing work into more specialized teams, including intake and pediatric-focused services.
- Leadership is strengthening partnerships with hospitals, pediatric providers, Regional Center staff, and other community organizations to improve referrals and services for families.
- Kingston has been out for the last few weeks, back next week. Veronica has been holding down the program.

PROGRAMS REPORT

Highlights in yellow.

The PA is not fully staffed. A Training Specialist will start in early June, however there is still an opening for a Registry Specialist; the final candidate accepted the verbal offer but accepted another position. Final round interviews for the top PA Director candidates were conducted; reference checks and meetings with the PA managers is scheduled for early June.

BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION

There are **15,428** Providers (IPs) enrolled in the Valley Health Plan (VHP) medical insurance. **2,182** of those in the Classic Plan and **13,246** in the Preferred Plan. **16,169** IPs are enrolled in the Dental/Vision plans. There were **155** Smart Pass VTA bus pass Cards issued.

Sick Leave: **39,465** active IPs have accrued 40 hours of sick leave. **19,008** have claimed some hours and **15,069** have claimed all 40 hours.

ENROLLMENT

Number of Providers (IPs) enrolled: **757**

DOJ fingerprint reports delayed over 30 days: **0**

Group Orientation Meeting (GOM) attendees: **931**

There are **1,207** future IP enrollment appointments scheduled. Next appointments are available **41** days (**5.9** weeks) after an IP watches the online orientation videos.

REGISTRY

There are **1,511** active IPs on the registry and **3,528** active consumers.

Regular Registry:

- Completed **65** new consumer intakes
- Generated **477** referral lists
- Attained **61** matches (assignments)
- Provided **845** new interventions with over **406 hours** spent on the interventions

Care Coaching: The Registry received **39** referrals for Care Coaching

- **39** care coaching consultations were conducted
- Total active consumers **239**

On-Call Registry (OCR): There were **5** eligible requests to the On-Call Registry out of **20** total calls. **2** requests were fulfilled for a total of **87.00** hours utilized. There are a total of **281** providers on the On-Call Registry.

Outreach and Recruiting

Registry Introductory Training (RIT): **10** remote RITs were held; **4** in English; **2** in Spanish, **3** in Vietnamese, and **1** in Chinese.

- **95** interviews were conducted
- **75** providers were invited to the eRITs
- **70** providers were added to the registry

Outreach Activities

Organization	Type	Reach/Individuals Assisted or Contacts Made
VASC	Once a month – 2 nd Friday	6 IPs assisted
MSSP	In-person presentation	12 contacts
Employment Connection of Santa Clara County	Resource Table	82 contacts / 6 caregiver interest
Morgan Hill Community Adult School	Resource Table @ Career Fair	45 contacts / 16 caregiver interest
Santa Clara County	Spring Career & Community Resource Expo	79 contacts / 14 caregiver interest
Gilroy Senior Center	Resource Fair	91 contacts / 3 caregiver interest

EPG: A total of **25** kits were picked up with **25** sets going to IPs for a total of **210** masks and **500** pairs of gloves. **54%** of those who requested PPE came to pick it up.

TRAINING

17 training classes were held. **195** individual IPs received an incentive with **268** seats filled. Incentive payments this month totaled **\$9380**. **15%** no shows this month.

Language	#	Location	#
English	9	Central – San Jose/Santa Clara	5
Mandarin	2	North - Milpitas	0
Spanish	4	South – Morgan Hill	2
Vietnamese	2	West – Sunnyvale/Cupertino	4
		Online	6

Life Enhancement Fund (LEF) Payments: 1 IPs were paid a total of **25.47** this month.

Consumer Connection Newsletter: **37,448** newsletters were mailed.

GENERAL INFO

Public Authority Phone Calls: The PA received a total of **7042** phone calls. Call breakdown:

• Registry 2360 • Enrollment 1837	• Benefits 2583 • Training 262
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CAPA REPORT

Highlights in yellow.

The board met on May 28, 2026.

The Provider Enrollment Group (PEG) held an in-person meeting on the last day of April. Topics included enrollment updates, background check process and best practices used across counties; Santa Clara County PA Enrollment Manager was one of the workgroup facilitators. In addition, the group received a pre-release demo of the new provider orientation, scheduled to be released in early July. They were having some issues related to the AI-generated voiceover so they will be re-recording several of the modules with real people. Post workshop survey results were very favorable/positive on the event topics, speakers and overall workshop format.

Treasurer, John Kozitza, took a position in IHSS and resigned from the CAPA Board. Luis Bravo was elected by the Exec Committee as CAPA Treasurer/Finance Committee Chair and will also continue his role as the Southern Region VP.

The CAPA FY26-27 budget was approved. CAPA Exec Director is working on FY26-27 PA allocations. May revise had an additional \$5.7M increase or ~8% over fiscal year 25-26, which is promising for Public Authorities.

Legislative Update

- The Governor's budget was released on May 10 with disappointing cuts to IHSS and BUPS. All three budget items related directly to IHSS and PAs remained in the Governor's May release (IHSS Residual Program, BUPS program, costs above the state baseline hours will get passed onto Counties) with an additional item not in the January release – the return of \$2K to the Medi-Cal Asset Limit (pre-2022 limits) for seniors and disabled adults to take effect on January 1, 2027.
 - This announcement caused a frenzy of advocacy, letter writing, testimony, public comment, and rallies at senate and assembly budget sessions.
 - Santa Clara County Advisory Board sent letters urging legislators to reject all cuts, including the \$2K Asset Limit.

- A large group of stakeholders sent a coalition letter to the Governor, senate and assembly leaders, and budget chairs rejecting all the cuts.
 - As of the end of May, both houses have rejected the three cuts and are proposing to keep the current Medi-Cal Asset Limit that became effective January 2026 (\$135K for one person; \$65K for each additional household member).
- There has been no movement on Statewide Collective Bargaining or many of the other bills that CAPA is tracking (25 total). The CAPA bill tracker can be found here:
<https://ctweb.capitoltrack.com/public/publish.aspx?session=25&id=a6e4cdd6-bb65-4ccb-9bdd-575a0103d068&showimage=1>

CDSS Update

Questions posed to CDSS/issues discussed included:

- Better notification to Providers regarding Share of Costs income received on year end W2's. Even if the provider didn't receive payment from their consumer that had a Share of Cost, the income appears in the W2 as it assumes the money/wages were collected from the consumer.
- CDSS looking into requests/changes to 426A to match information already in CMIPS (separate Spouse versus Domestic Partner as an option); in addition, adding "Registry Provider" as an option in the 426A Relationship field.
- If BUPs is terminated, will CDSS send notification to recipients and providers. Also wanted verification that if program is terminated, providers that work until the program end date will be paid the \$2 differential if entered into the timesheets after the program ends. CDSS responded that an ACL will be released with all the details of how the program will wind down.
- CDSS explained that the new Provider Orientation Videos would only be available/translated into the four state threshold languages – English, Spanish, Mandarin and Armenian. The new provider orientation manual/booklet, however, will be translated into a total of 10 languages. The six additional languages include: Cambodian, Farsi, Korean, Russian, Tagalog, and Vietnamese.

Next Meeting:

- **August 18, 2026, from 12 noon to 1:30 pm** via In-person/Hybrid.
- **Meeting Location:**
 Social Services Building; Auditorium Conf Room, 1st Floor @333 West Julian Street