Butte County In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS)

Advisory Committee Minutes

August 13, 2019

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

765 East Ave, 2nd Floor Hummingbird Room

(Butte Community Employment Center-CEC)

Chico, California

1. Call to Order-Sarah May, Chair

The meeting was called to order by Sarah May at 10:12 a.m. Introductions were made around the table and then we moved to the training room for more space.

1. Establishment of a Quorum- Vice-Chair, Mark Gordon

Mark Gordon declared that a quorum was met with Sarah May, Talmadge House Sarah Okumbe, Domenic Console, Mariann Ramirez, and himself being present. Kara Hall IHSS Public Authority, Tina Reszler DESS Analyst and Lynn Haskell facilitator were also present. Crystal Mourad joined the group during item 4 of the agenda.

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1. Mark moved and Domenic seconded that the minutes of May 14, 2019 meeting be approved. Minutes approved.
2. Due to Ian Greene’s absence item 4 of the agenda was changed to discussion of the BOS and applicant process. Terms ending 12/31/2019 are Mariann Ramirez, Sarah Okumbe and Domenic Console. Each member was asked to serve another 3 year term and each answered yes. Tina will provide the transmittal form to the BOS clerk.
3. CICA California In Home Supportive Services Consumer Alliance update: Mark explained the inner workings of the Regional CICA operations. Discussions currently revolve around EVV and how CICA dues are used. Mark reports that the state has done a remarkable job of making EVV as benign as possible.

Sarah May opened discussion on CICA regional trainings. She asked if CICA would finance a local regional training. The timing for a training has been altered due to the Camp Fire. The sub-committee needs to reconvene to update the timeline.

Tina Reszler is on a Disaster Preparation Group in Butte County. This group is reviewing coding to include power outages. What can PG&E offer IHSS clients when there are power outages? Mark called PG&E to get informed on in-line generators, which PG&E said were illegal. PG&E has a medical baseline program and an outreach ADA coordinator. Talmadge has been in contact with her and has her contact information. Lynn and Sarah M will contact her to invite to the November 12th meeting. Many concerns were raised about the power outages including medical equipment, refrigerators, and loss of food supply. Talmadge suggested safe centers be identified for IHSS recipients that PG&E could possibly fund. Crystal reported that Butte County Continuum of Care has emergency plans in place. Sarah May will contact the COC for local agencies and what they do. Mark reported that Enloe calls their oxygen clients to make sure they’re set up for the outages. Domenic said it is best to deal directly with suppliers and providers of oxygen to cover needs. New West at 16th and Park 530-897-2123 supplies oxygen as well.

 A reminder that a monthly state wide call happens on **the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 10:00am 1-800-309-2350 passcode 10282015#.** \*6 to mute yourself or un-mute, \*5 to ask a question. The call is open to anyone who wants to keep updated on In Home Supportive Services.

1. Mariann updated on Adult Services and IHSS. EVV- L.A. has implemented the program. 45% of Butte County is already on E Portal which should make a smoother transition on implementation. Butte County is using provider training and payroll staff to push EVV forward. EVV is using a clock in/ clock out procedure stating whether the service is in home or in the community. It is much simpler than previously thought. The EVV system is a lot more efficient.

E Portal was explained as a system that uses electronic or telephonic devices for the recipient of services to approve work completed. Recipients and providers need to sign up with a username and password. Payroll staff is eager to help providers and recipients over the phone to sign up. Recipients will get notices when providers sign their time sheet.

Mariann was gracious to answer specific questions around issues with EVV and solved a committee member’s immediate need.

1. Kara passed out the Butte county EVV implementation schedule. If E Portal is already set up the only thing that will change when EVV is implemented is start time, end time and location.

Butte County will implement September 20- October 20 2020.

Client #’s went way down after the fire. Currently 3800 recipients down from 4200 pre fire. In May 17 providers were available which was the lowest ever, currently 31 are available. There is a job fair scheduled September 25th. Sarah May volunteered to be at Manzanita Place from 12-4pm.

Kara reported that EVV is being promoted for timeliness of checks and convenience. The union has offered a U.S. Bank card for direct deposit. The system has pop up boxes for warning about violations which answered questions about fraud within the system.

1. Public Comment –Talmadge dispensed a flyer from Disability Action Center regarding “Improving Emergency Readiness”. There was discussion about the Voters Choice Act which is active within Butte County regarding access to voting for the disabled population. From now until March 3,2020 local information can be added to the Governors draft of the legislation. Mariann reported IHSS is mandated to offer voter registration to IHSS clients.

Talmadge also addressed bus increases and is advocating for the disabled population.

1. Meeting was adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

 Next meeting: Date: November 12, 2019

 Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

 **NEW LOCATION**: NVP Hummingbird Room 2nd floor

 765 East Ave Suite 200