

Yolo County  
Public Authority

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Status Report  
JANUARY 1, 2008



Public Authority Governing Board

Mariko Yamada, Chair  
Duane Chamberlain, Vice-Chair  
Mike McGowan  
Matt Rexroad  
Helen M. Thomson

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### Special Thanks:

*To Nancy Seyden who is the Chair for the IHSS Advisory Committee. Nancy has tirelessly given of herself in many areas, and has always consistently worked toward the betterment of providers and quality of care for consumers.*

*We would also like to acknowledge the collaborative efforts of DESS, RIL, Eskaton, YC PARMIA, Sacramento Public Authority, Yolo County Departments, CDSS for State Rate Setting, and SEIU United Healthcare Workers West.*

### Public Authority Staff

Jan Wolff, Acting Executive Director  
Devonné Williams, Associate Administrative Analyst  
Cyndie Avina, Registry/Benefits Specialist  
Olga Drovorub, Registry/Training Specialist  
Paula Gonzalez, Registry/Outreach Specialist  
Stacy Key, Registry/Secretary Specialist

### Advisory Committee

Nancy Seyden, Chair  
Frances Gracechild, Vice-Chair  
Cyndie Sechler, Secretary  
Sherry Kaufman  
Nelson Hernandez  
Linda Findley

## Activities

### **November a Month of Thanks for Yolo Caregivers**

Yolo County found several ways in the month of November to thank those who provide care to elders and disabled adults so that they may remain living safely in their homes. The Yolo County Board of Supervisors, who act as the governing board of the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Public Authority, declared November 20-27, 2007, to be IHSS Caregiver Week, and on November 7, the IHSS Public Authority held the county's first every Caregiver Open House to celebrate the role of caregivers in our society.

“Approximately 1,618 IHSS caregivers provide home care services and support which make it possible for 1,668 low-income disabled and elderly residents in Yolo County to remain living independently,” said Yolo County Board of Supervisors and IHSS Public Authority Chair Mariko Yamada. “We are exceedingly grateful to these caregivers who promote independence, dignity, and quality of life for our Yolo County residents”.

Approximately 3,000 consumers and providers from all over Yolo County were invited to attend the IHSS Public Authority Caregiver Open House. Special guests included Yolo County Board of Supervisors Chair Mariko Yamada and IHSS Advisory Committee Chair Nancy Seyden. Both Chair Yamada and Ms. Seyden spoke to the assembled group and thanked the caregivers for their time and caring support of Yolo County's vulnerable population of elders and disabled adults. Acting Public Authority Director Jan Wolff presented Chair Yamada with a certificate thanking her for her work in supporting the needs of elderly and disabled adults in Yolo County.

The IHSS Public Authority would like to thank the following local businesses that supported this special event through their generous donations of raffle prized, which were awarded to local caregivers in recognition of their efforts: Bel Air, Raley's, Sizzling Hot Mongolian, Country Waffles, Sizzler, Jeffrey Phillips Chiropractor, Mengali's Florist, All About You/Massage-Stephanie Dollar, Jody's Mexican Food, Little Caesar's, Midas, Starbucks, Home Depot, True Value Hardware, Mr. Pickles, Pizza Guys, H<sub>2</sub>O, Rico's Pizza, Nugget Market, Wal-Mart, Food 4 Less, America's Tires and Jamba Juice. In addition, Timothy's Bakery donated a full sheet cake for the celebration. Support from local business owners help highlight an understanding of the importance of In-Home Supportive Services to all residents of Yolo County. “The work of Yolo County's IHSS caregivers requires great sensitivity, honesty, patience, trust, commitment, dedication, and compassion, and is both physically demanding and emotionally challenging,” said Acting Public Authority Director Jan Wolff. “The County Board of Supervisors, as well as the Public Authority and the Department of Employment and Social Services would once again like to extend our sincere gratitude to all of our caring and devoted county caregivers”.



## Collective Bargaining

As of December 2007 the fifth annual collective bargaining negotiations are underway. Yolo County Providers of IHSS continue to receive \$10.50 per hour, and those who qualify will receive medical, dental, and vision care.

## Outreach

- Public Authority staff meet with the Provider Training Development Taskforce and the IHSS Taskforce.
- Public Authority staff meet monthly with statewide Public Authority Registry Managers and Executive Directors.
- Public Authority staff continues to meet with SEIU United Healthcare Workers West in Labor Relation meetings to improve working conditions, provider training, responsiveness, and quality of care.
- Public Authority staff are working with county staff and local newspapers for media and marketing outreach.
- The Public Authority and IHSS have sent out a new combined newsletter, Consumer/ Provider Connection to IHSS consumers and providers.
- The Public Authority continues to provide space in the Woodland Offices for Resources for Independent Living (RIL) to provide advocacy and direct services to the disabled in Yolo County.
- The Public Authority has developed a Multimedia Lending Library of training and educational information for consumers and providers.

## Caseloads

- The Public Authority has made a total of 100 “matches” of qualified providers being hired by IHSS consumers. The Public Authority has over 154 screened and qualified active providers on its registry.
- Serving over 108 Consumers in the Broderick, Capay, Davis, Dunnigan, El Macero, Esparto, Knights Landing, Madison, Sacramento, West Sacramento, Winters and Woodland areas.



## IHSS Public Authority

The Yolo County Department of Employment and Social Services In-Home Supportive Services Unit is responsible for administration of the IHSS program in Yolo County and provides primary support to consumers of this service

### Yolo County Public Authority:

- Was the 11<sup>th</sup> Public Authority established in California.
- Provided quality training classes to 424 providers in 2007.
- Completed drug and alcohol testing for 111 new providers in 2007.
- Completed Department of Justice Fingerprint checks for 97 new providers.

### Service improvement objectives for 2008 include:

- Targeted provider recruitment in rural and other challenging areas.
- Orientation attendance for all IHSS providers.
- Mandatory CPR and First Aid training for registry providers.
- Implement the Emergency On-Call Program

The IHSS Public Authority is a public agency responsible for operating a Provider Registry to help consumers find quality IHSS providers and for serving as employer of record for purposes of bargaining wages and benefits for all providers in Yolo County, thereby improving the delivery of In-Home Supportive Services to consumers in Yolo County.

The Public Authority provides referral of qualified providers to meet specific consumer needs, detailed intensified screening of providers to enhance consumer safety and security; provision of applicable training skills to improve the quality of provider services; and quality assurance visits to validate quality care and services to IHSS Consumers.





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