

## PASC Board Meeting January 4, 2021 Minutes

1. Call to order: The Personal Assistance Services Council (PASC) Board Meeting was called to order at 1:05pm.

Donna Fields called the roll: Wilma Ballew, Denny Chan, Steven Echor, Donna Fields, Lyn Goldfarb, Andre Green, Janet Heinritz-Canterbury, Richard Hernandez, Brandi Orton and Chris Otero were present.

Jorge Chuc and Brandi Orton were absent and excused.

2. Introduction of others present (For those with vision impairment): The public announced themselves.

Cynde Soto, a PASC new Board member, introduced herself and talked about her background with IHSS.

3. Reading of the Mission Statement and Moment of Silence –

Janet Heinritz-Canterbury read the mission statement. **The Personal Assistance Services Council (PASC) strives to improve In Home supportive Services (IHSS) support independence and enhance the quality of life for all who receive and provide In Home Supportive Services.**

Moment of Silence – Moment of Silence was observed for all requested intentions.

4. Public Comment - None.

5. Consent Agenda

- a) Minutes – Approval of the November 2, 2020 Minutes – *Attachment C*
- b) Financial Report – Approval of October 2020 ADMIN – *Attachment D-1*
- c) Financial Report – Approval of October 2020 NPER – *Attachment D-2*
- d) Financial Report – Approval of November 2020 ADMIN – *Attachment D-3*
- e) Financial Report – Approval of November 2020 NPER – *Attachment D-4*
- f) Activity Calendar – *Attachment E*
- g) PASC Board Performance Measures September 2020 – *Attachment F*

Motion to approve the consent agenda moved by Steven Echor, second by Andre Green, motion passes with consensus.

Janet Heinritz-Canterbury asked for clarification on the Board Performance Measures in regards to the Year to Date and Greg Thompson explained it as well as it is a fiscal year from June 1 thru July 30. She also suggested some changes to make it more understandable.

Donna Fields complimented Rebeca Douglas on an excellent BUAP zoom call and Greg Thompson stated that he will share this with Ms. Douglas. She also asked about the number of providers who have joined the BUAP and Greg stated that the number of BUAP providers have increased but one of the issues is the availability to work and the meeting that Donna went to was a screening that Ms. Douglas does in order for them to be placed as a BUAP provider. Greg stated that he believes that there are 74 trained BUAP providers but not always available. Greg also stated that there were 122 requests for the

BUAP to date and last year there were 97 total requests filled. He also explained what requests were filled and those that were not but successfully fulfilled 52 BUAP requests this year and 97 last year. He also stated that they are looking at other ways of recruitment for the BUAP.

Lilibeth Navarro asked what is a “unique provider” and Greg Thompson stated that it in reference to the number of providers and consumers who are actively using the registry.

#### 6. Board Chair Report - Janet Heinritz-Canterbury

- a) Comments: Janet Heinritz-Canterbury commented on a series of last year’s events (2020) including past PASC Board members that are no longer with us, Randi Bardeaux and Bertha Poole as well as she welcomed 2021 with new change and encouragement.

Janet Heinritz-Canterbury also talked about the 3 committees that PASC must have per its contract with SEIU 2015, the Registry Advisory Committee, Health Plan Oversight Committee and the Labor Management Committee. She stated that she asked Donna Fields to serve on the PASC-SEIU 2015 Registry Advisory Committee, as well as she asked Denny Chan to serve on the Health Plan Committee and she is going to serve on the PASC-SEIU 2015 Labor Management Committee as well as all three will bring reports back to the PASC Board on what they are talking about and any recommendations that they make.

She also asked the Board for input: Denny Chan talked about some of the issues that his agency has been working on, crisis standards of care, how healthcare resources are allocated during an emergency, and the vaccination allocation policies of the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines. He asked the Board if they are hearing any issues or concerns from IHSS consumers and providers and that it would be helpful to know what they are and he would take it back to the state. He sits on the vaccine allocation committee advisory committee for the state.

Donna Fields stated that she contacted Greg about a provider who was in need of a Covid-19 test and she feels that it is important that people know where to get tested. She also stated that Greg and Layla gave her information and she passed it on. Denny Chan clarified Donna’s statement and the difference between getting a test, or getting vaccinated and crisis assistance.

Steven Echor asked if providers are unwilling to test, could that be contingent upon them keeping their job, Denny Chan deferred that question and Greg Thompson explained and stated that under the current IP Mode (Individual Provider Mode) a consumer can request it and stated that the consumer is the employer and stated that he has not seen a specific employer law yet and will look in to it.

Lilibeth Navarro asked about the priority list for the vaccines and levels of illnesses of who can get and who makes the decisions and what are the factors. Denny Chan stated that it is up to each state of what the allocation will look like for that particular state and the CDC issued guidance on recommendations in the first wave. He talked about the committee he is involved in which is an advisory committee and they are not that ones making that decision and that the state has paneled several different committees and talked about other committees that have different roles in the allocations and explained the phases and what California is doing and recommendations. He also talked about those individuals “skipping the line” this is an issue that he has brought up with the advisory committee and explained and reiterated the phases. Greg Thompson also reminded the Board that more COVID-19 information is in their Board packet.

## 7. Executive Director's Report – Greg Thompson

- a) DPSS PASC Contract Discussion and consideration of necessary action taken by the PASC Board - Attachment G-1 & G-2: Regarding this item: Greg Thompson recommended that the closed session be moved and matters to be discussed.

### 13. Closed Session –

Open Session – Janet Heinritz-Canterbury reported out that discussion was done regarding the PASC contract with DPSS and direction was given to Greg Thompson on how to proceed.

Motion to approve: Direction was given to Greg Thompson to proceed; moved by Steven Echor, second by Lillibeth Navarro, motion passes with consensus.

- b) PASC Orientations: Greg referred the Board to the attachments in their packet as well as he elaborated on it.

Greg Thompson also reported on the Public Health Department on how they will roll out vaccinations for the IHSS consumers and providers in the first part of January and encouraged the Board to look at the information in the handouts as well as SEIU sent out information to the IHSS providers.

- c) General Information: Greg reported: PASC is still working virtually and he expressed how proud he is about the PASC leadership staff and the work they have done to ensure that the PASC staff continues to be able to work from home. There has been some discussion about returning back to the office no sooner than April 2021. He is continuing to monitor the city of Pasadena, LA County, and the state to see when it will be safe to come back in to the office.

Greg Thompson also talked about the EPG distribution and the dates. He also stated that PASC is looking for other distribution locations and stated that it is a tremendous amount of work and asked the Board members for suggestions and ideas of EPG site locations to please let him know.

Greg Thompson also talked about Project Room Key and stated that they are looking at various ways to recruit providers.

Donna Fields asked about EVV and the portal, Greg Thompson responded and stated that, in the Board packet, there is an attachment that talks about the EVV and he explained and elaborated on the requirements as well as he stated that Sonia Miramontes can also explain it.

Donna Fields also asked about Project Room Key and can it work for someone who is not homeless, Greg Thompson responded and said that Project Room Key and Project Home Key were designed for people experiencing homelessness and he recommended the [www.LAHSA.org](http://www.LAHSA.org) website. (Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority)

Steven Echor asked Greg Thompson if he should ask Frank Tamborello from Hunger in Action regarding an EPG distribution location and Greg Thompson stated yes.

Steven Echor also asked about the IHSS provider wage increase and Greg Thompson stated that it went up to \$15 per hour as of January 1, 2021 and deferred to Sonia Miramontes for a definitive answer.

Janet Heinritz-Canterbury asked a question from the November Board meeting regarding the EPG reimbursements from the county. Greg Thompson stated that PASC has signed an amendment to PASC's current contract with DPSS which will allow the county to reimburse PASC. He should know by the next Board meeting if the county has reimbursed PASC.

Steven Echor asked for clarification on how many providers are on IHSS in LA County and Greg Thompson reiterated that number and deferred to DPSS.

8. Report from SEIU 2015 – Wendy Duchon: Not present – no report.

9. Sonia Miramontes reported:

TOPIC	UPDATE
<b>IHSS</b>	<p>Recipients and providers in need of services may contact the IHSS Helpline and/or our website at <a href="http://dpss.lacounty.gov">dpss.lacounty.gov</a>. If a recipient or provider needs assistance due to lack of internet access, they can visit an IHSS office and staff will assist.</p> <p>The IHSS Helpline hours are Monday thru Friday from 8am – 5pm, 1-888-822-9622.</p>
<b>IHSS Stats</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IHSS Caseload as of December 31, 2020               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Consumers (Active) – 237,425</li> <li>➤ Providers – 190,979</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Electronic Visit Verification (EVV)</b>	<p>LA County EVV adoption rate as of December 21, 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 99.94%</li> </ul>
<b>CDSS Changes/Waivers</b>	<p><b>EVV:</b> Changes that will impact providers are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A provider who lives with their recipient will only need to report on the EVV the hours they worked. The change in the Electronic Services Portal should be in place sometime this month.</li> <li>• A provider who does not live with their recipient will be required to check in and out, from their recipient's home, each day that they work. Stakeholder meetings are in process of being scheduled.</li> </ul> <p><b>CDSS Waiver Extensions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initial assessments may be conducted via video conference in lieu of the face-to-face assessment through the end of the Public Health Emergency.</li> <li>• Reassessments will be conducted via telephone through the end of the Public Health Emergency.</li> <li>• Emergency Back-Up Provider wage differential due to COVID-19, has been extend until through June 30, 2021.</li> </ul>
<b>On-Line Provider Orientations</b>	<p>DPSS continues to enroll applicant providers via the Provider On-Line Orientation system. As of December 31, 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 46,909* providers have called to begin the provider enrollment process</li> </ul>

	<p>➤ 36,563 have watched the video</p> <p>*includes duplicate registrations</p>
<b>IHSS Wage Rate</b>	Effective January 1, 2021 the wage rate for providers has increased to: \$15.00 for providers \$18.00 for BUAP providers
<b>IHSS Helpline Data</b>	IHSS Helpline call data for December 2020 is not currently available.

Donna Fields asked about the portal for providers and Sonia Miramontes explained the process and the changes.

Janet Heinritz-Canterbury asked for the number of consumers and providers that are on IHSS and Sonia Miramontes stated that there are 237,425 recipients and the provider data was not available.

Lillibeth Navarro asked if DPSS has a plan for the COVID-19 vaccinations for consumers and providers and Sonia Miramontes stated that DPSS has reached out to CDSS for information regarding the vaccinations and they are pending a response from them.

Lyn Goldfarb asked Sonia Miramontes when DPSS does receive that information, will they inform PASC and Sonia Miramontes stated that she will share the information with Greg Thompson and Willis Oliver to share with the PASC Board.

Lyn Goldfarb asked about the IHSS orientation video and if there is a questionnaire and Sonia Miramontes stated that on the SOC 846 video, when the providers sign that document, that indicates that the provider has watched and understands the video and if they need any follow up information, DPSS has handouts as well as they send out an orientation packet.

Janet Heinritz-Canterbury asked about how many videos in the LA County IHSS orientations has and Sonia Miramontes stated that LA County has merged them into one on-going video.

Janet Heinritz-Canterbury asked for clarification on AB79, and Sonia Miramontes stated that it is for providers who have completed the orientation and SEIU 2015 gets this information on a weekly basis as well as she explained and reiterated the average numbers of providers pre COVID who have called the IHSS helpline to on-board versus those who have showed up to the provider orientation in person.

Richard Hernandez asked who is responsible to installing the app and Sonia Miramontes stated that it was a suggestion and she does not know if they are going to go that route and she stated that if anyone has questions, they can join the stakeholder's meeting.

Donna Fields asked if Sherri Cheatham contacted Wendy Duchon regarding last month's meeting discussion and Sonia Miramontes stated that she was not sure and does not have that information. Greg Thompson stated that it was being taken care of.

Donna Fields also asked about the BUAP and Sonia Miramontes stated that the BUAP is handled by PASC. Janet Heinritz-Canterbury stated that the BUAP will be discussed in the performance measure's report.

10. Legislative Updates – Debi Hight – Attachment I: Debi Hight referred the Board to the attachments in their packet as well as she highlighted and elaborated on it.

Debi Hight also talked about and highlighted the 2<sup>nd</sup> page of her report: Local State Assembly Members and State Senators serving on fiscal and human services communities working with the IHSS program

and Lyn Goldfarb stated that she has a long-term relationship with Elena Durazo and if Debi Hight needed to get in contact with her, Lyn Goldfarb can assist.

Janet Heinritz-Canterbury suggested that it would be useful to have a list of numbers of consumers in each of the assembly and senate districts as well as the name and contact information of the main staff person for IHSS and Debi Hight stated that she would get that information to her.

11. Unfinished/Old Business – None – Donna Fields commented about Lyn Goldfarb’s video about her father.

12. New Business – Future Agenda Items

13. Closed Session – Move to item 7 under Greg Thompson’s report

Open Session

14. Mission Moments – None

15. Adjournment – Janet Heinritz-Canterbury adjourned the meeting at 3:05pm.

Motion to adjourn the meeting, moved by Steven Echor and second by Wilma Ballew/Lillibeth Navarro, motion passes with consensus.

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Approved by:

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Date: