

Silicon Valley Independent Living Center

A disability justice organization that creates fully inclusive communities



Photos by Tom Olin

ATTENTION IHSS RECIPIENTS

In Home Supportive Services

The California Budget signed in July 2011 has some provisions called *Triggers* that will determine if more cuts to IHSS hours will be needed.

Trigger Cut #1 – State Finances

The Budget assumes that there will be a \$4 Billion increase in state money throughout the year; it directs the Dept. of Finance to analyze the monies received by the middle of December. If it is determined that the receipt of monies will be less than \$3 billion;

- ❖ **All IHSS Consumers will have their hours reduced by 20%, the beginning of 2012.**

What You Can Do

- ✓ Consumers will be able to decide the manner in which the cuts are applied to their services. For example, if you have 90 hours per month, a reduction of 20% will mean you will lose 18 hours of service. You will be the one to decide if those hours come from time allotted for cooking, shopping, meal prep, etc.
- ✓ Consumers will have the option of applying for **IHSS Supplemental Care Hours**. Apply for these hours, if you believe that losing 20% of your hours, will cause you to lose your ability to remain in your home. Contact your IHSS Social Worker for information on how to apply to this program.
- ✓ **Unmet Needs:** Any consumer who has a documented Unmet Need in the program, will have the 20% cut in hours, taken from those first. If you are unsure if you have an Unmet Need, call your Social Worker. These hours must be recorded; do not let them tell you that your county does not keep track of them.

Trigger Cut #2 – Medication Dispensing Pilot Program

Governor Brown originally proposed, last spring, to reduce hours for IHSS consumers by 8.4%, beginning July 1, 2011. The Legislators voted to approve this cut in hours **ONLY** if a new program, related to Medication Dispensing Machines, does not result in a savings of \$140 Million. What this means is;

- ✓ In April 2012, if it is determined that this program will not save the \$140 Million for the state, then the 8.4% cut in hours would go into effect, in October, 2012.

(Note: the 8.4% cut in hours, would be in addition to the 20% cut in hours, noted in #1)

For more information or questions about these cuts, call 408-894-9041.

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