FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome to our Yolo County IHSS Advisory Committee. We look forward to your participation on our Committee. We have addressed many issues since we first began in 2000 providing input to Yolo County on the mode(s) of service preferred and helping to establish a Public Authority.

A rich history lies behind the development of In-Home-Support Services (IHSS) and Public Authorities (PAs) in California. The history is filled with vision, struggle, drama, and the voices of many people. Advocates sought to address the needs of people who are disabled, blind, and elderly and who require assistance with personal care and/or domestic services. People with disabilities and the elderly wanted to live independently at home, in homes of their choosing, and to participate in their communities with the hands-on assistance of others. They wanted to have a say in the services provided. With adequate support and assistance from others, they knew independent living could be achieved. The IHSS and the PA programs are about people with disabilities and the elderly who live in the community with assistance from others and who receive public assistance.

Our Committee has worked on the following issues:

1. Input on mode(s) of service in Yolo County
2. Input on establishing a Public Authority
3. Recommendation to establish On-Call Program
4. Attended and spoke on panels at Statewide Conferences
5. Instrumental in putting on Tri-County Conference with Solano and Napa
6. Instrumental in putting on Conference in 2006: Rally for Success
7. Wrote script and developed video: Living with Personal Care Assistance
8. Participated in Better Care Forum
9. Developed a website: yoloihssadvisorycommittee.org
10. Participate in development and formation of Statewide organization California In-Home-Support Services Consumer Alliance (CICA)

AB 1682 requires each county in California to establish an Advisory Committee to provide recommendations to the Board of Supervisors, IHSS, and the PA. For the first time, the Advisory Committees/Boards have given a voice to consumers and providers to participate in decisions that directly affect their lives and in how services are provided to consumers. We are here to make recommendations

We are proud of our accomplishments. We hope you will be a dedicated participant on our Committee. Thank you for your assistance.

Cordially,

Nancy Seyden
Chair, Yolo County IHSS Advisory Committee