

**Issues & Reports
(Continued)**

many others, where we were being called upon to give feedback.

Kelly Dearman cautioned that the fraud issue was a sensitive one. Rather than simply denying that it exists, we need to explain exactly why family members taking care of and getting paid for taking care of other family members is a good idea and makes total sense.

After Ms. Calame highlighted other items (e.g., recouping COBRA costs), she noted her belief that there will be serious dynamics around the budget for at least the next couple of years. Mr. Serina suggested that it would help him understand what upcoming proposals might mean for the Authority if he had a more in-depth grasp of our funding. The rest of the Board agreed, and it was decided that an hour (Board Education section) of the July 14th meeting would be devoted to that topic. Board President Alice Wong thanked Ms. Calame for all her work reflected in this presentation.

Fiscal & Operations Manager Manuel Molina and Ms. Calame reviewed the *FY 2009-10 Agency Budget* with the Board. When DAAS asked us to reduce our operating expenses in our FY 2009-10 budget, staff benefits turned out to be an area of significant savings when actual costs were calculated, rather than a flat rate that had been previously included in our budget. After discussing other items, such as covering increased On-Call costs, providing for the new Consumer Peer Mentor Program, and recognizing that there were many potential changes that might affect IHSS budgeting overall in the coming year, the Board moved to approve the budget.

Motion

Unanimous approval to formally approve the FY 2009-10 Agency Budget as is.

The Governing Body then discussed *Ideas for Board Activities* after some background from Ms. Calame. Ms. Wong then proposed using at least a portion of the funds for a project that would take advantage of the nearly 4700 IHSS consumer responses to our budget cuts mailer in 2008. More specifically, she suggested hiring a freelance writer who could take this “treasure trove” of stories and create a “glossy packet” that could then be mailed out to policymakers, legislators, other advocates, etc. Using ICCE’s database of all the responses (“The 4700 Project”) would make it possible to select the best narratives and link them with photos. She hoped that the final version could be used in other media and would especially be an effective tool in correcting people’s misconceptions/prejudices about family members working as IHSS workers. Ms. Calame not only thought this would be an appropriate use of Board funds, but she had already set a project like this in motion with Heidi Cartan, former Director of the Santa Clara IHSS Public Authority and parent of a child with a severe disability. Ms. Cartan has already met with a faculty member in the SF State video department who was anxious to work with us.

Mr. Serina stated that this was a great idea and media outlets, such as KQED, might be interested if we had something concrete to give them. Ms. Dearman said that we needed to be clear on who our target audience was and be able to reach them through all available avenues: the Web, Facebook, MySpace, YouTube, pertinent blogs, etc. The Board decided to form a Media Outreach Subcommittee to further pull together and develop ideas/plans/goals for the project. Ms. Wong, Ms. Dearman and Mr. Serina volunteered for the subcommittee.

**Announcements/
Public Comment**

The next Interim GB Meeting will be Tuesday, June 9th, at 1:30 p.m. in the conference room on the 9th floor in the Authority offices. Mary Beth Schuler (NUHW) thanked the Authority for its neutrality in the ongoing union situation.

GB Retreat

The board then shifted to its retreat format without staff or members of the public in attendance to *Brainstorm Goals and Objectives vis-à-vis Ends Policy* for the coming year.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3 p.m.

Patricia Webb, Secretary