# Sacramento CountyHuman Services Coordinating Council

## Meeting Minutes: June 13, 2019

Meeting Location:

Dept. of Human Assistance

2700 Fulton Ave

Sacramento, CA. 95821

Conference Room 58

Facilitator: Ernie Brown, Chair

**Staffed by:** Cindy Marks

Meeting Attendees:

* HSCC Members –Ernie Brown, Erica Jaramillo, Melinda Avey, Raymond Kemp, Robert Silva, Jr., Paul Tanner, Kula Koenig, Paul Tanner, Steve Orkand, Randy Hicks, Leslie Julianel, Paula Green, Caroline Lucas, Ricky Teresa Ogan
* Ex-Officio Members –Eduardo Ameneyro (DHA), Michelle Callejas, Martha Haas (DCFAS), Xochitl Gomez (BOS), Julie Gallelo (First 5)

Absent Members:

* HSCC Members – N/A
* Ex-Officio Members: Bruce Wagstaff (CEO), Paula Green, Cindy Cavanaugh (Homeless Initiatives), Peter Beilenson (OFCA)

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| Call to Order | Chair, Ernie Brown, welcomed everyone, introductions were made, and meeting called to informal order.  |
| Approval of May 9, 2019 Minutes  | Approval of both May 9, 2019 Minutes moved to approve Minutes with corrections by Ernie Brown and Melinda Avey seconded and two abstentions were made.  |
| Special Presentation: Erica Jaramillo with CalABLE  | Erica Jaramillo with CalABLE presented a status update for the HSCC. Quick Stats:* The CalABLE program was created to provide greater financial security to Californians living with a disability, whom are twice as likely to live in poverty than the general public
* To meet the diverse needs of our customers and their families
* Their mission is to be customer-driven, accountable, and a trusted partner in providing financial services
* In order to qualify, the person must have been diagnosed with a disability before the age of 26 and meets the eligibility criteria for disability benefits like SSI or SSDI benefits OR has Self-Certification, meaning they have been diagnosed by a licensed physician with a physical or mental disability resulting in marked and severe functional limitations that is/are expected to last at least one year.
* Now these persons can save up to $15,000 per year and up to $100,000 in total before SSI is impacted
* Eligible individuals may only have one ABLE account
* A Qualified Disability Expense (QDE) is any expense related to the designated beneficiary as a result of living a life with disabilities that helps maintain or improve your health, independence, or quality of life. This can include but not be limited to housing, transportation, health care expenses, and more
* There have been federal tax reform changes including rollovers from a 529 college savings account into an ABLE account as well as access to saver’s credit. All these provisions will sunset after 2025
* The advantages of setting up a Cal ABLE account are that they are inexpensive to set up and maintain and can be used to pay housing expenses without affecting SSI
* Protection from Medi-Cal Recovery and Creditors include SB 218 passed in 2017, which limits the state from filing a claim to recover Medi-Cal costs incurred by a beneficiary after the establishment of an ABLE account upon the beneficiary’s death. In addition, this protection only applies to California residents with a CalABLE account. In addition AB 688 passed in 2017, which exempts ABLE accounts from enforcement of money judgements
* Simple Investment Options are available and CalABLE fees are very low and enrollment is free. In addition, there is no penalty or limit for withdrawals
* The Customer CalABLE Help Center is available Monday-Friday for support in addition to the attachment included

Questions from HSCC:* Bob: Wanted to know why the provisions will sunset after 2025. The only reason it sunsets is to give time for the state to take another look at these provisions to see if the mission and values are the same by the year that it will sunset
* Steve: What was the rationale of setting the limitation to age 26? This was because former foster youth can receive Medi-Cal until the age of 26 has now been increased to age 46, so this could be the reasoning as to why this was the decided age limitation
* Steve: Are there already IRS/FTB forms that show CalABLE and is there a tax exemption? Yes, and the CalABLE team is working with CalPERS to try and ensure that CalABLE recipients are claiming the correct filing information. Currently, however, there is not a tax filing code for this. For more information, please see AB 416.
* Public (Patti): Legislative priorities: Bills AB 416 (tax deduction for CalABLE account contributors) and AB 736 (seeks conformity with Federal law for rollovers from the 529) are the bills regarding CalABLE at this time. In addition, Patti asked if
* Randy: What banks may offer this? Any bank can offer this, but you must register your CalABLE account online first. You can link your CalABLE account to your bank account. The process is that the bank creates two micro –deposits to your bank account to ensure it is legitimate
* Randy: Is there a TDY number for a contact? Erica checked on this after the meeting and found out the following: California, and every other state, has a standard TTY relay service. TDD is sometimes also called TTY. The deaf, hard of hearing person using their device to call the TTY number and the Communications Assistant (like a middle man) will connect them and translate back and forth. LINK: <https://ddtp.cpuc.ca.gov/default1.aspx?id=1483>.

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| TTY Relay Service |
| **From Standard Telephone to TTY** | **From TTY to Standard Telephone**   |
| Dial a voice CA at 711:or call:1-800-735-2922 (English)1-800-855-3000 (Spanish) | Dial a voice TTY CA at 711: or call: 1-800-735-2929 (English) 1-800-855-3000 (Spanish) |
| Give the CA the area code and TTY number you wish to call. |
| The CA will voice to you what the TTY user says to you and type to the other party what you say. | The CA will type what the other party voices to you, and the voice to the other party what you type on your TTY. |

Erica thanked the HSCC members for having her out to speak in regards to CalABLE, what she does in her current position, and how she helps the community.  |
| Budget Discussion-HSA Funds  | Michelle Callejas: DCFAS budget-First the safety and well-being of children, two, adult services, and three, no layoffs in staff at this time. Most of the stress has come from pending and ongoing lawsuits and the growing needs of the Sacramento County Jail. There was a loss in Federal funding, realignment funding, some unknowns with the Title IV-E waiver, deletion of some contracts, as well as some other unknowns. There are the deletion of county vacancies and some county DCFAS employees were laid off as a result of the budget and is still a 4.6 % reduction in staff at this time. This is a concern as the senior population is growing exponentially. Some positions may be reallocated to address needs somewhere else. Eduardo Ameneyro: DHA Budget Update –Deletion of vacancies, and reduction on county contracts, cutback on CalFresh contracts, a reduction to the housing support dollars, but still HEAP funding coming through this summer is in place to assist with this reduction. DHA will only be able to hire for critical positions. DHA is currently seeing how we have the structure to provide resources and how to provide the utmost customer service to our customers.  |
| Focus of MABs Moving Forward  | Each Member Advisory Board-What is the most important thing you are working on in the future?* DHA-No current report or updates at this time, but did include a lot of input in today’s Homeless Initiatives presentation
* Alcohol and Drug-Criminal Justice-Adding Behavioral Health information inside the jail and case management after incarceration. Reviewing a model in Colorado in regards to directing inmates to services while they are incarcerated but will assist to provide resources during and after incarceration
* Public Health Advisory Board-Distracted Driving in teens-trying to get programming into the schools to training in proper precautions behind the wheel
* DAC-Self-Evaluations-Taking a look at how programs are looking at ADA accessibility in businesses
* Adults and Aging-Had the “5 Over 50 Awards” on May 7, 2019, which is the Older Americans will be the first annual event to award senior volunteers. It was a successful event and will now be held on an annual basis.
* Children’s Coalition-Disproportionate amount of children of color being suspended from schools and are looking into restorative justice in schools
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| Member Comments  | * Randy Hicks turned in DAC report at time of meeting and included Cheryl Bennett attended training at the Office of Emergency Services and that the self-evaluation is being redone at this time and as soon as the public weighs in on changes, Randy will let HSCC know as soon as possible.
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| Public Comments  | * No comments.
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| Announcements | No announcements. |
| Adjourn | Meeting adjourned. |