



# County of Santa Cruz

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## LONG TERM CARE INTERAGENCY COMMISSION

1400 EMELINE AVE., 3rd FLOOR, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060  
(631) 454-4664 FAX (631) 454-4290  
MARIAN WOOD, CHAIR

January 25, 2001

Board of Supervisors  
County of Santa Cruz  
701 Ocean Street  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Dear Board of Supervisors:

Please find attached a copy of the Long Term Care Interagency Commission's 2000 Annual Report, which the Commission approved at its annual meeting January 11, 2001. The Commission respectfully requests that the Board of Supervisors accept its 2000 Annual Report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sandi Boulé".

Sandi Boulé  
BRA Departmental Administrative Analyst  
Assigned Staff

cc: CAO

Encl. - 2



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# County of Santa Cruz

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

701 OCEAN STREET, SUITE 500, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060-4069

(831) 454-2200 FAX: (831) 454-3262 TDD: (831) 454-2123

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FOURTH DISTRICT

JEFF ALMQUIST  
FIFTH DISTRICT

AGENDA: 2/6/01

January 30, 2001

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
County of Santa Cruz  
701 Ocean Street  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

RE: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE LONG TERM  
CARE INTERAGENCY COMMISSION

Dear Members of the Board':

Attached is the Annual Report of the Long Term Care Interagency Commission for calendar year 2000. I recommend that the Board accept and file this report and direct the Chairman to thank the members of the Commission for their efforts on the County's behalf.

Sincerely,

TONY CAMPOS, Chairman  
Board of Supervisors

TC:ted

cc: Long Term Care Interagency Commission

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# County of Santa Cruz

## LONG TERM CARE INTERAGENCY COMMISSION

1400 EMELINE AVE., 3rd FLOOR, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060

(831) 454-4864

FAX (831) 454-4610

MARIAN WOOD, CHAIR

## LONG TERM CARE INTERAGENCY COMMISSION 2000 ANNUAL REPORT

### ROLES OF THE COMMISSION

1. To serve as the Adult Day Health Care Council (ADHC) for Santa Cruz County, pursuant to State Health and Safety Code Section 1572.5.
2. To serve as the community long-term care task force for Santa Cruz County, pursuant to State Welfare and Institutions Code Section 9811.
3. To serve as the Interagency Committee on Aging for the Area Agency on Aging.
4. To identify and support those efforts that assist in achieving a single point of entry system for long term care in Santa Cruz County.
5. To monitor legislation and long term care service delivery to Santa Cruz County and make appropriate recommendations to the Board of Supervisors.
6. To exercise any other responsibilities that may be set forth in the Commission's by-laws as approved by the Board of Supervisors.

### MEETING DATES, TIMES, AND LOCATION

The Commission's regular meeting time and location is the second Thursday of every other month - January, March, May, July, September, and November. This year the Commission met at 2:00 p.m. at Room 206, HRA, 1400 Emeline Avenue, Santa Cruz.

### COMMISSION STRUCTURE

The Long Term Care Interagency Commission is composed of 25 members. Nine of these are community representatives: one from each supervisorial district and four at-large members. The other 16 members represent each of the following agencies or categories: Area Agency on Aging, County Health Agency, County Medical Society, Senior Transportation Program, Acute or Long Term Care Health Facility or Organization, Alternatives to Institutional Long Term Care, Younger Functionally Impaired Adult (18-55), Senior Information and Referral Program, Multipurpose Senior Service Program, Home Health Agency, Regional Center for the Developmentally Disabled, Independent Living Center, Adult Day Health Care Facility,

Caregiver Resource Center, Interest in Organic Brain Syndrome, and Interest in Nursing Home Care.

### COMMISSION STAFF

The Commission shares staff with the Seniors Commission. The assigned staff person is an Analyst with the Adult Services Division of the Human Resources Agency.

### ATTENDANCE

Please see attached Attendance Roster.

### 2000 ANNUAL GOALS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Long Term Care Interagency Commission's activities focus on advocacy for consumers and oversight of agencies and facilities that deliver long term care services. A major benefit of the Commission is ongoing communication and education among agencies and individuals involved with long term care issues. The results are an avoidance of unnecessary duplication of services and the promotion of cooperation, coordination, and collaboration among health and human service providers. Following are specific issues that the Commission addressed during the past year.

- Several members of the Commission participated on the In-Home Support Services (MSS) Workgroup, an informal group that evolved out of the IHSS Task Force. The Workgroup also completed a client handbook, which addressed issues such as back up care, complaints, and resources. Special needs MSS clients received the handbook.
- The Chair of the Commission is a representative on the Advisory Committee studying 'Employer of Record' options that will be presented to the Board of Supervisors in early 2001. The Commission receives updates on the activity of the Committee.
- Commissioners continued to monitor the progress of the County's Long Term Care Integration Pilot Project. The Health Services Agency received a grant of \$50,000 and contributed \$10,000 in matching funds to plan for long term care integration. A director is in place through the Health Services Agency. Suzanne Koebler, the Director, provides support to a Task Force, which oversees planning. The Task Force created four smaller workgroups, which are: Services Team, Governance, Finance, and Data. A majority of the Commissioners are serving as members of workgroups or the Task Force.
- The Commission advocated for the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act (United States HR1671), which passed the House and is waiting for approval signature by the President.
- The Chair of the Long Term Care Commission participated in the Committee responsible for evaluating the proposals submitted to provide In-Home Support Services (IHSS) contract services.

- The Commission monitored the following issues:
  - ✓ Provision of adult day health care services;
  - ✓ Senior transportation and paratransit services, including provision of services in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA);
  - ✓ The diminishing numbers of SSI beds in residential care facilities and Medical beds in skilled nursing facilities – an ongoing crisis;
  - ✓ The provision of service through the Multipurpose Senior Service Program (MSSP) and the declining population of eligible clients, from 200 to 250 clients.
  - ✓ The changing climate in the provision of IHSS and the implications of the passage of AB1682.
  - ✓ The ongoing crises in home health care due to shrinking state and federal funds.
- The Commission advocated for inclusion of long term care in any future state or federal health care plan and oppose reduced funding for existing programs supporting long term care.
- The Commission monitored the implementation of AB 1682 and the County's decision making process regarding designation of an employer of record for IHSS. The Chair is a member of the Advisory Committee.
- Members of the Committee reported on adult day health, paratransit, housing, and other long-term care issues.
- The Commission enhanced local coordination of long term care by serving as a forum for the exchange of information and ideas among service providers and representatives of service populations.
- The Commission supported the community's efforts to provide for unmet needs such as affordable housing, residential care for SSI recipients, Medical beds in skilled nursing facilities, residential and continuing care dementia specific resources for low-income persons and integration of Long Term Care services.
- The Commission received reports and continued to advocate on behalf of younger people with significant disabilities who are in need of long term care. Included in this population are survivors of Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI).
- Maintain awareness of and address issues as they arise concerning the following:
  - ✓ Delivery of services for long term care recipients by The Central Coast Alliance for Health (a.k.a. SCCHO or the Alliance)
  - ✓ The delivery of MSS in the community
  - ✓ Adult Protective Services (APS) expansion
  - ✓ Expansion of Adult Day Health Care (ADHC)
- The Commission promoted access to long term care services through public education, improved communication between service providers, and input into the long term care integration process.
- The Commission began a process to establish relationships and review conditions in residential care facilities and skilled nursing facilities and advocated for improvements as needed. Monitoring visits were made to all Skilled Nursing Facilities and Commission members reported to the Committee.

**2001GOALS**

- Monitor the impact of Medicare prospective Pay System (PPS), on the delivery of home healthcare services and
- Continue visits and relationship building to the Skilled Nursing Facilities and expand to the Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCFE) and Assisted Living Facilities.
- Review the composition of the Committee.
- Advocate for the development and implementation of the County's Long Term Care Integration Pilot Project.
- Continue to monitor the efforts of the County to establish an "Employer of Record for IHSS.
- Advocate for increased recruitment of long term care providers. Educate legislative bodies about the need for a living wage for care providers. Promote the creation of a career ladder and training for providers.
- Advocate for resources to address the affordable housing crisis in Santa Cruz County, especially for low-income seniors and disabled adults.
- Continue to advocate for more SSI beds in Residential Care Facilities and increased access to Medical beds in Skilled Nursing Facilities.
- Monitor the influence of HMO's and managed care on the recipients and providers of long term health care.
- Monitor and advocate for increased mental health services for elderly and disabled consumers including those with dementia.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- The Commission again recommends that the Board of Supervisors continue to support legislation to address the shortage of SSI beds in residential care facilities and Medical beds in skilled nursing facilities by advocating to increase Medicare/Medical reimbursements for skilled nursing facilities \*and increase SSI reimbursements for residential care facilities.
- The Commission applauds the Board of Supervisors recent action to increase wages to in-home support workers and other activities that will lead to improved delivery of service to consumers of IHSS.
- The Commission recommends that the Board of Supervisors continue to support efforts of the Long Term Care Integration Pilot Project.
- The Commission recommends that the Board of Supervisors advocate for increased funding for paratransit and fixed route transit.

The Long Term Care Interagency Commission approved this annual report at their January 11, 2001 meeting.

*Marian Wood, Chair*

Marian Wood, Chair

(Jeanette/LtcComm/2000/Annual rppt.doc)