

IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES PROGRAM (IHSS) NOTICE TO RECIPIENT OF REDUCTION IN AUTHORIZED HOURS

PLEASE READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY IT PROVIDES IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR IHSS

Beginning January 1, 2012, the total authorized monthly service hours you get will be reduced by 20-percent. Here's why:

There is a new state law (Welfare and Institutions Code section 12301.07) that requires the California Department of Social Services to make a 20-percent reduction in each IHSS recipient's total authorized monthly service hours. The enclosed Notice of Action shows how many authorized monthly service hours you get now and how many you will get after the reduction.

The 20-percent reduction is in addition to the 3.6-percent reduction in your authorized monthly service hours that took effect February 1, 2011, and which will continue until June 30, 2012.

You can decide which of your authorized services will be reduced. You can choose to reduce all of the hours from one authorized service or you can split it up among several different authorized services. Your provider(s) will receive notification about the 20-percent reduction on his/her timesheet(s). However, you are responsible for telling your provider(s) which specific service hours you have chosen to reduce. You do not have to tell the county how you have chosen to apply the reduction; this is between you and your provider(s).

If you believe that the 20-percent reduction in your authorized service hours puts you at serious risk of out-of-home placement, you can ask for IHSS Supplemental Care. You must complete the enclosed IHSS Application for Supplemental Care (SOC 877) and return it to the county by March 1, 2012. The county will review your application and determine whether you are at serious risk of out-of-home placement. If the county determines that you are at serious risk of out-of-home placement, your service hours may be partially or fully restored.

If you ask for IHSS Supplemental Care within 15 days of receiving this notice or mail it to the county postmarked no later than **January 3, 2012**, the reduction in your service hours will not go into effect and you will continue to get the same number of authorized service hours you have been getting until the county determines if you are at serious risk of out-of-home placement. If the county determines that you are at serious risk of out-of-home placement, your service hours may not be reduced at all or they may be reduced less than 20-percent.

The county will send you a notice telling you if your application for IHSS Supplemental Care has been approved or denied. If you disagree with the county's decision, you can request a state hearing on that decision. Information about your hearing rights is included on the back of this notice. However, requests for a state hearing only to dispute the new state law requiring the 20-percent reduction in authorized service hours will be dismissed.

If you do not understand the information in this notice or you have any questions, contact your county IHSS office.