



Public Authority of Fresno County

Oralia Gomez, Executive Director

The **In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) program** is a locally managed state required program that is available to aged, blind, or disabled people that receive Medi-Cal. In Fresno County, the program works with Medi-Cal eligible persons to help hire care providers. Fresno County has a Public Authority Agency that supports the program by keeping a list of approved care providers. Care Providers receive payment from the State by submitting timesheets. The rate of payment for Care Providers is based on a negotiated rate between the Provider Labor Union (SEIU 2015) and the Public Authority. The current rate of pay is \$16.60 an hour which is \$.60 above the State's minimum wage (\$16.00).

FRESNO COUNTY PROPOSAL

The Fresno County Public Authority is proposing to **adjust the hourly rate by \$1.20 which would increase the total to \$1.80 above the State's current minimum wage. The \$1.20 consists of a request to move \$.85 health benefit to wages and add an additional \$.35 wage supplement.** Current data shows that providers work around 140 hours per month. **The Public Authority's proposal would provide around a yearly increase of \$2,017.** Effective January 1, 2024, the State's minimum wage increased to \$16.00; with the current Public Authority Proposal, IHSS providers would receive \$17.80 per hour wage (\$1.80 above State minimum wage).

Currently, there are 23,873 providers of which 2,236 (9%) receive health benefits through the Union plan which is funded through the \$.85 benefit. The Union sponsored health plan is the Kaiser Silver Health Plan which is currently available through Covered California and is now available as a Medi-Cal managed care plan effective 1-1-2024. **Providers who are currently receiving benefits through the Union plan can select the same plan and avoid any doctor and service changes if they qualify for health coverage through Medi-Cal or Covered California.** Additionally, effective January 1, 2024, the State is changing Medi-Cal rules to not count property value such as life insurance, bank accounts, homes, and vehicles. This change will help those who might not have qualified for Medi-Cal before due to exceeding property limits. In addition, when the care provider lives with the Medi-Cal recipient, regardless of relationship and completes the Live In Certification, the IHSS income is not counted when Medi-Cal eligibility is determined.

As of November 2023, there were 12,415 IHSS providers (52%) enrolled in Medi-Cal. There will be **no change to these providers. The rest of 7,894 providers may currently be enrolled and receiving health care benefits through Covered California or other health insurance.**

Phone: (559) 600-6666 ~ FAX: (559) 243-7485

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1912, Fresno, California 93718-1912

<https://www.fresnocountyca.gov/PA>

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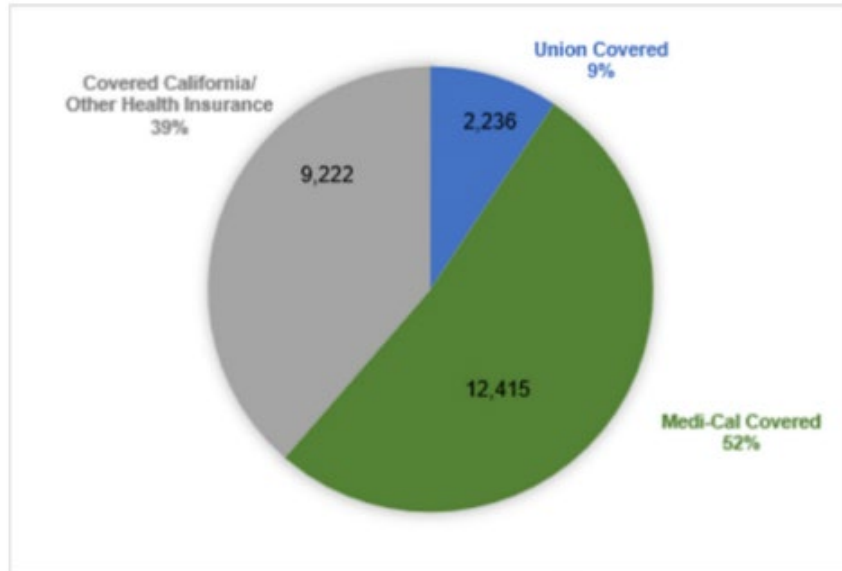
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IHSS Provider (23,873) Health Coverage



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