

REPORTING IHSS / MEDI-CAL FRAUD

The Tehama Co. Dept. of Social Services asks that anyone who observes or has knowledge of suspicious IHSS activities to call the department at 530/527-1911 and report to Adult Services, Mon. through Fri. 7:30-5:00. You can also contact IHSS Public Authority at 530/527-0276. The caller may remain anonymous.



IHSS /
MEDI-CAL
FRAUD
AND
ABUSE



TEHAMA COUNTY DEPT.
OF SOCIAL SERVICES
Physical: 310 S. Main Street
Mailing: P. O. Box 1515
Red Bluff, CA 96080
Phone (530) 527-1911
Fax (530) 527-4836

IHSS
Fraud
Is A Crime!

IHSS / MEDI-CAL FRAUD & ABUSE

WHAT IS IHSS / MEDICAL FRAUD?

In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) is a Medi-cal program. When you commit fraud against IHSS you are committing Medi-Cal fraud. Medi-Cal fraud is an intentional attempt by some providers, and in some cases recipients, to receive unauthorized payments or services from the program. This fraud can take many forms, but the most common involves providers knowingly claiming hours for services not performed or providers claiming time for unauthorized task and the recipients over exaggerating their need for services.

MORE FOCUS ON FRAUD

Fraud is a key issue to the State of California. In a joint effort to combat Medi-Cal fraud, there has been new legislation passed to improve communication and cooperation among agencies that investigate and prosecute individuals suspected of Medi-Cal fraud. The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), the Tehama County District Attorney's

Office and Tehama Co. Dept. of Social Services are working together on fraud prevention and prosecution of those involved in Medi-Cal fraud.

THE COST OF FRAUD

IHSS/Medi-Cal fraud costs taxpayers and honest providers millions of dollars every year. While the majority of IHSS providers follow proper program requirements, some attempt to defraud the program. The IHSS program is under review for cuts. To help prevent the cuts to the program and help protect yourself, it is important to report any fraudulent activities of which you may be aware. DHCS investigators, as well as investigators from the California Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), have assisted federal and state prosecuting attorneys in Medi-Cal fraud cases.

EXAMPLES OF FRAUD

Most IHSS providers are honest in their timesheet practices and provide quality care to their recipients. However, a relatively small number of providers and recipients commit fraud directly or become involved in

fraudulent schemes. The following are examples of IHSS fraud uncovered by local investigators:

- An IHSS provider is hired to provide care for an elderly recipient. The provider fraudulently fills out the timesheet showing hours worked during a time when the recipient was hospitalized.
- An IHSS provider turned in a fraudulent timesheet for hours worked on services not allowed by IHSS (yard work, pet care, packing for a move, etc.).
- The IHSS recipient exaggerated their need for services and planned with the IHSS provider to split the IHSS check received. Both, the recipient and provider are guilty of fraud in this case.

**The caller may remain
anonymous.**

Adult Services

1-530-527-1911

or

IHSS Public Authority

1-530-527-0276