

**From:** maureen donohoe <medbmdd@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 4, 2019 12:37 AM  
**To:** EngAGE@CDA  
**Subject:** Maureen Donohoe Checking In with a Question

Hello,

I have several questions and statements to make. Please do your best to answer them and if you do not have the answer, please let me know who would best be able to.

1. Please let me know when the IHSS meetings took place ( I was able to be on one of the calls but think I missed another one) and let me know when the remaining LTSS-IHSS related meetings-call in dates etc., are, that the public can participate in.

2. Is the December 13th deadline for comments, the last date to submit comments on IHSS?

As we participate in more meetings after that date, can we still submit responses to the conversation generated?

3. After the first call I was on, I inquired about having access to the recordings of the calls **and** if there was a capability to exchange contact information with others I heard from on the call. Have these things been done?... and if so where do I find it on the CA Master Plan for Aging site?...how is that done to maintain privacy and also encourage support amongst other involved caregivers?

4. Also, this process appears to be moving along fairly fast-I am concerned not enough people with disabilities and caregivers have been given the proper notice, to become involved. Many I have spoken to within my daughter's various communities were not aware of all of the meetings and opportunities for giving their input. This compounds the very issues many of us as caregivers are constantly advocating for within these meetings and illustrates the reasons a Master Plan is needed-**one of the main failures of the "system" in numerous areas, is that of access and opportunity to share direct personal experience of the person with disabilities IN THEIR OWN VOICE, to the people are in positions of power and able to shape change.** You

can not hear them and benefit from their indispensable wisdom if they are not even made aware of an occasion to speak up. I found out about this entire process from an advocate who suggested I get involved. If another family does not have that type of connection, how are all of the disabled communities getting the notice to be able to be included? If this plan's objective is to really affect change, you have to see from the beginning how even the format and perspective going into this process, is also part of the problem. People need time to make the significant contributions to this process and deserve the respect and dignity in order to do so-as a whole rushing does not work with this population, if you truly want something of value after all of this is done.

Bottom line-offer more meetings-do greater outreach to connect with more disability communities-cast a bigger net so you can hear from as many as possible-slow it down a

little bit to accommodate more voices-and remember as caregivers we are already working full-time jobs. And remember we are the ones actually performing the work and have first hand experience that has not been filtered up through a bureaucratic process and diluted in content-that is the honest voice that is required if truth, ingenuity and excellence is what the Plan is striving for.

5. My direct experience with IHSS is that it is severely compromised in my County. And that despite hearing and appeal, the real issues of dysfunction and non-compliance are still not being addressed-there are no clear avenues of reporting this-no clear methods of accountability and transparency with County officials even by the Judiciary. If this is not happening, how exactly is the law being applied and how is my daughter able to receive the care she is entitled to receive under that law? Has this topic been raised in any of the IHSS meetings so far?...and if not, why not?...and what is the proper category that would house these concerns in the Master Plan of Aging?...have you made provision for it?

If these comments are best served in the recommendation section, please advise me.

Thank you very much for your time and attention.

Most sincerely,

Maureen Donohoe