



Sonoma County Area Agency on Aging Executive Committee Meeting

Agenda

Tuesday, March 12, 2024

11:00 am – 12:30 pm

In-Person: Carnelian Conference Room, 3725 Westwind Blvd. Santa Rosa 95403

Public Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/95867080073>

- 11:00 **1. Welcome & Introductions** (Helman)
- 11:00 **2. Approval of 02.13.2024 Executive Committee Minutes** (Helman)
- 11:05 **3. Public Comment**
- 11:15 **4. Advisory Council Membership** (Helman)
- New Member Nomination: McCabe – Action
 - Member Vacancies (4) Next Steps
 - Nominations for the Marge Ling Award
 - Volunteer Log Reminder Process
 - Chair Designee for April Executive Committee
 - Public Relations Role (Larson)
 - Tabling at Senior Expo July 2024 (Beards)
- 11:45 **5. California Senior Legislature, TACC & Legislative Updates** (Kelley/Parrish)
- California Senior Legislature/Triple A-Council of California (TACC)
 - AT&T Relief of Carrier of Last Resort (COLR) Obligation – Action
 - Ombudsman Budget Request – Action
 - Caregiving Legislation: AB817, SB37, AB1157 – Action
 - Market Match Funding [Save Market Match | A crucial safety net for food-insecure Californians and California's small farms](#) – Action
- 12:00 **6. Public Hearing Planning** (Parrish)
- 2024-2028 Area Plan Goals & Objectives (Shaar)
 - Request for Proposal Funding Recommendations (Helman)
- 12:15 **7. Advisory Council Agenda Review – March & April** (Helman)
- 12:30 **9. Adjourn** (Spain)

Attachments: Minutes (02.13.2024), Marge Ling Award, Legislative Materials, Advisory Council Draft Agenda

Supplemental materials related to an agenda item are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Adult & Aging Office, 3725 Westwind Blvd., Suite 101, Santa Rosa. All listed times

are approximate and subject to change. Agenda items are scheduled for consideration by the Advisory Council, which may or may not choose to act. Breaks may be called at the discretion of the Chair. If you need any accommodations to effectively participate please contact aaa@schsd.org or (707) 565-5238 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. To receive the AAA Newsletter: AAA@schsd.org.

Executive Committee: Chair: Diane Spain **Vice Chair:** Jenny Helman **Secretary:** Deanna Shaat
Former Chair: Terry Kelley **Parliamentarian:** Trayce Beards



SONOMA COUNTY AREA AGENCY ON AGING Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes

Tuesday, February 13th, 2024 | 11:00 am – 12:30 pm

Attendance: Jenny Helman, Trayce Beards, Terry Kelly, Deanna Shaat

Staff: Katie Parrish, Cassandra Denson (notetaker) **Absent:** Diane Spain

Public: Zaw Wai Htoo, PhD (University of California)

1. **11:00- Meeting Called to Order: Welcome & Introductions** (Helman)
2. **Approval of 01.09.2023 Executive Committee Minutes** (Helman)
 - Accepted the minutes as written.
3. **Advisory Council Update** (Parrish)
 - Update to AAA AC Webpage Council Description
 - Trayce Beards will assist with language.
 - The Executive Committee will review changes before uploading.
 - Member Applications- *Applications given to members for review.*
 - Larry McCabe- At Large Member Applicant
 - ACTION: Trayce Beards makes a motion to move forward with interviewing Larry McCabe, Terry Kelley seconds the motion. Vote: All in favor.**
 - Varma Priyanka - Supervisor Rabbitt is meeting to discuss appointment.
 - A&A Staff (Gary Fontenot & Katie Parrish) will be working with the BOS in the upcoming months to review the process for applicants and appointments.
 - Annual Calendar Schedule Reviewed & Approved
 - C4A Conference – AC Member Attendance
 - A&A is offering to send 2 members of AC to the conference. Requesting a commitment from those members. Jenny Helman & Terry Kelley will attend.
 - Be the Change – HSD Consultant Support
 - Approved for 3 hours/sessions of consulting with a focus on BIPOC community outreach. 5 AC members can attend. Will be a virtual meeting.
4. **Convening of Diversity-Equity-Inclusion-Belonging (DEIB) Association Representatives: Role at February's AC Meeting** (Parrish)
 - Reviewed potential participants in the next AC meeting. Asking participants to speak to their communities' older adult needs and give an opportunity to connect with AC.
5. **Ad Hoc Committee Updates** (All)
 - Bylaws Update (Beards)
 - Reviewed Major Changes: Name of Commission, Duties and Powers section, Ongoing Recruitment policy, Staff Support, and Standing Committees, 50 hours annual volunteer expectation for AC members.
 - **ACTION: Dianna Shaat makes a motion to approve the updates and present the Bylaws to the AC. Terry Kelley seconds the motion. Vote: All in favor.**
 - Diversity & Outreach (Parrish)- *Nothing to report at this time.*

- Area Plan Goals & Objectives (Shaat)
 - Discussed Draft Priorities List.
 - Reviewed Meeting Report Tool/Form with Spreadsheet Report of results.
 - Will need to create the implementation plan and calendar.
 - ACTION: Trayce Beards makes a motion to submit the full list of objectives for adoption by the AC. Deanna Shaat seconds the motion. Vote: All in favor.
(Deanna will present at the AC meeting.)
- Area Plan Funding & Priorities (Helman)
 - Working on a condensed/high-level slide show for the March Public AC meeting.

6. Advisory Council Agenda Review (Helman)

- Addition: Reviewed the Public Hearing announcement language.

7. Public Comment & Next Steps (Helman)

- Zaw Wai Htoo PhD, University of California, Community Nutrition & Health Advisor: Introduction and contact information provided. Is interested in bridging connections with AC/AAA programs.
- Trayce Beards: Read a letter that was posted in the Press Democrat by a reader regarding the senior farmers market bucks.

8. Adjourn (Helman) (12:37pm)

Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council Marge Ling Leadership Award

Procedure

(11-2014)

The Sonoma County Area Agency on Aging honors an outstanding leader in the field of aging with a Leadership Award annually. In 2005, the award was renamed, the Marge Ling Leadership Award upon her passing.

Marge Ling was a long time AAA Advisory Council member who held a number of leadership positions. Marge was the director of the SRJC nursing program. She (and her family) were well-known in Santa Rosa. Marge had a special interest in health care for older adults. She advocated tirelessly for the Assisted Living Waiver (ALW) to be passed into law and for the ALW to be available to Sonoma County residents. Marge also had a strong interest in the Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) program and worked to get the hospitals and health advocacy groups to sponsor PACE in Sonoma County.

Historically, the award has been given to an Advisory Council Member who has demonstrated exemplary leadership on aging issues. Examples of recipients would be:

- an individual who is dedicated to a focus area (ex. Elder abuse prevention, advocacy, community education) or multiple initiatives to improve the quality of life and independence of older adults,
- has volunteered a generous amount of time,
- provides excellent role modelling, and
- has had a significant impact on their focus area(s).

In 2013, the Advisory Council Executive Committee determined that:

- 1) the awardee does not have to be an Advisory Council member,
- 2) the award does not have to be given each year and
- 3) it is preferable to not award an Executive Committee member, but not prohibited.

Each year in March, the Advisory Council Executive Committee reviews possible recipients for the award. If a recipient is identified, a plaque is prepared, the award is included on the agenda for the May Advisory Council meeting in alignment with the Older Americans Month recognition. The recipient is notified one week in advance. The award is presented at the Board of Supervisors as well as at the regular Advisory Council meeting at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

Marge Ling Leadership Award Recipient List

2002	Lou Funk & Les Hunt
2003	Joann Keyston
2004	Marge Ling
2005	None
2006	Raynetta James
2007	Alice Diefenbach
2008	Bob Marshall
2009	Bud Metzger
2010	Henry Lasky
2011	Gary Shepard
2012	Jane Eckels
2013	Rabon Saip
2014	None
2015	None
2016	Jim Redding
2017	Amy Appleton
2018	Alain Serkissian
2019	Dean Brittingham
2020	None
2021	None
2022	Don Streeper
2023	Lea Black



CPUC Fact Sheet

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION HEARING

AT&T's Applications for Targeted Relief from its Carrier of Last Resort Obligation and Relinquish its Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Designation (A.23-03-003 and A.23-03-002)

AT&T's application regarding Carrier of Last Resort Obligations (A.23-03-003)

In this application, AT&T requests to be relieved of its Carrier of Last Resort (COLR) obligations in certain areas of California. If approved, it would no longer be required to offer landline telephone service where it is currently required to offer Basic Service in those areas. Basic Service includes nine service elements such as Lifeline rates for eligible customers, free access to 9-1-1, Telephone Relay Service, and directory and operator services. More information on Basic Service is available at <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/industries-and-topics/internet-and-phone/broadband-mapping-program/broadband-public-feedback/basic-service-definition>.

What is a Carrier of Last Resort (COLR)? A COLR is a telecommunications service provider that stands ready to provide basic telephone service, commonly landline telephone service, to any customer requesting such service within a specified area. At least one telephone company in a specified area is legally required to provide access to telephone service to anyone in its service territory who requests it. This is known as the Carrier of Last Resort (COLR) obligation which ensures that everyone in California has access to safe, reliable, and affordable telephone service. AT&T is the designated COLR in many parts of the state and is the largest COLR in California. Where AT&T is the default landline telephone service provider means that the company must provide traditional landline telephone service to any potential customer in that service territory. AT&T is proposing to withdraw as the COLR in your area without a new carrier being designated as a COLR.

What areas are impacted by AT&T's request to withdraw as a COLR? [Here](#) is the list of census designated places where AT&T is requesting to withdraw as the designated COLR and [here](#) is an online version of the map with address lookup.

What might happen if AT&T withdraws as a COLR? An area without a COLR could mean that there would be no landline telephone company serving that area and that there could possibly be no landline telephone access for customers in that area. If AT&T's proposal were accepted as set forth in its application, then no COLR would be required to provide basic service in your area. This does not necessarily mean that no carriers would, in fact, provide service in your area—only that they would not be required to do so. Other outcomes are possible, such as another carrier besides AT&T volunteering to become the COLR in your area, or the CPUC denying AT&T's proposal.

AT&T's application regarding Eligible Telecommunication Carrier Designation (A.23-03-002)

On March 3, 2023, AT&T requested to give up its designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC).

What is an ETC? An ETC is a telephone company operating in a specific geographic area, that receives financial assistance from the federal government-established Universal Service Fund to provide high quality, and affordable telephone service to customers at all income levels in specific geographic areas. One example of a program funded by the Universal Service Fund is federal Lifeline. While funding for this program is provided by the federal government, each state determines a telephone company's eligibility for ETC designation. In California, a company's eligibility for these federal funds is determined by the CPUC.

Does an ETC provide California LifeLine? In California, the CPUC also approves and denies applications for state funding for programs to provide universal support, including California LifeLine (California's program is called LifeLine with a capital "L" for "Line"). The California LifeLine program is separate from the federal Lifeline program. An ETC may be a provider of California LifeLine as well as federal Lifeline, but eligibility to provide California LifeLine is not limited to only ETC providers.

What is AT&T's request in this application? AT&T is applying to give up its ETC designation, which would allow it to no longer offer federal Lifeline, as well as other federal programs designed to subsidize telecommunications support for low-income individuals and individuals located in remote areas. AT&T's participation in the California LifeLine program is a separate matter from this application to give up its ETC designation. AT&T asserts that it is not necessary to keep its ETC designation because it no longer receives any federal high-cost support from the federal government to provide universal service. By relinquishing its ETC designation, AT&T will no longer be eligible to receive federal support to provide Lifeline, which could potentially affect all current AT&T Lifeline customers.

What areas are impacted by AT&T's request to give up its ETC designation? All areas of AT&T's service territory where it currently holds ETC designation, which is the same as its Carrier of Last Resort (COLR) service territory, could be impacted if the CPUC approves AT&T's application. Here is a map of the different COLR service territories in California, including AT&T's: https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/-/media/cpuc-website/divisions/communications-division/documents/high-cost-support-and-surcharges/chcf-a-1/ilec-territories-2023_230412.pdf

What are the potential impacts on customers' bills? For a household receiving federal Lifeline from AT&T, the bill could increase by \$5.25 per month for voice-only service, or \$9.25 per month for bundled or internet service. In addition to these amounts, a household on Tribal lands receiving federal Lifeline from AT&T could experience an additional \$25 per month bill increase.

What is required of AT&T for the CPUC to approve AT&T's request? AT&T must demonstrate that another ETC provider can provide universal support in the areas where AT&T wishes to surrender its ETC designation.

For more information on Eligible Telecommunications Carrier designation, please visit <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/industries-and-topics/internet-and-phone/service-quality-and-etc/eligible-telecommunications-carrier>

Public Participation Hearings

The public participation hearings (PPHs) provide an opportunity for the public to communicate directly with the CPUC regarding AT&T applications to remove its obligations under California to provide voice services.

WHEN	FORMAT	LOCATION
February 6, 2024, 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.	In-person only	Clovis City Council Chambers 1033 5th Street, Clovis, CA 93612
February 22, 2024, 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.	In-person only	Mendocino County Board of Supervisors 501 Low Gap Road, Room 1070, Ukiah, CA 95482
March 14, 2024, 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.	In-person only	Indio City Hall Council Chambers 100 Civic Center Mall, Indio, CA 92201
March 19, 2024, 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.	Virtual only	1-800-857-1917 Passcode: 6032788# www.adminmonitor.com/ca/cpuc

Consistent with the PPHs' purpose of hearing from members of the public, representatives of parties already involved in this proceeding are not permitted to comment at the PPH. More information at www.cpuc.ca.gov/pph

Other Ways to Participate

Subscribe to receive documents in A.23-03-003 and A.23-03-002 at: subscribecpuc.cpuc.ca.gov/fpss/Default.aspx

Submit comments electronically to the CPUC using the "Add Public Comment" button on the "Public Comment" tab of the Docket Card for A.23-03-003 at apps.cpuc.ca.gov/c/A2303003 and A.23-03-002 at apps.cpuc.ca.gov/c/A2303002. You can also review other public comments related to this rulemaking. The public may submit multiple public comments throughout the proceeding.

Contact the CPUC's Public Advisor at:

- Phone: 1-866-849-8390 (toll-free) or 1-415-703-2074
- TTY: 1-866-836-7258 (toll-free) or 1-415-703-5282
- Mail: CPUC Public Advisor's Office, 505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102
- Email: public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov

Please reference AT&T's Applications 23-03-003 and 23-03-002 in any communication with the CPUC.

2024 Budget Ask for Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs



California's Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program is requesting **\$9.25 million** in additional annual funding to meet its essential state and federal mandates. This additional funding will make it possible for LTCOPs to ensure residents' quality of life and care in long-term care facilities.

Changing Demographics of Long-Term Care



Long-term care facilities provide a home for some of California's most vulnerable residents. In 2022, over 320,000 adults lived in 8,675 LTC facilities across the state. These facilities include adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Our aging population is growing rapidly too. By 2030, 10.8 million Californians will be an older adult, or a quarter of the state's total population. 24 counties will see growth in their aging population over 150%. More facilities will need to be built to accommodate this growing population. (See [page 10 of our proposal](#).)

Increased Complexity & Severity of Cases



The LTCOP receives 42,00+ complaints from LTC residents, staff, and family members annually. Most complaints are reported by facility staff and residents.

The types of complaints the LTCOP receives have increased complexity and severity as the LTC industry becomes more complex and highly regulated. Complaints range from simple quality of life issues to egregious cases of abuse and neglect. Roughly 25-33% of the program's work consists of investigating abuse and neglect reports (*APS does not have jurisdiction in LTC facilities*). (See [page 7 of our proposal](#).)

Lack of Staff & Volunteers



The LTCOP lost 50% of its volunteers over the last 5 years, in large part due to the pandemic. Additional volunteers are needed to achieve the program's mandate to make quarterly unannounced visits to all 8,675 LTC facilities in California. Only 69% of skilled nursing facilities and 54% of assisted living facilities are routinely visited.

More staff are needed to replace volunteers. Due to the increasing complexity of cases, many complaints cannot be delegated to volunteers. Staff must also recruit, train, and supervise any new volunteers. Every volunteer must complete 36 hours of federally-mandated training to serve as a LTC Ombudsman. (See [page 5 of our proposal](#).)

Expanding Scope of Services



Today, the LTCOP has jurisdiction over 14 different types of LTC facilities in California, including facilities for developmentally and intellectually disabled adults of all ages.

Beyond resolving residents' complaints, LTCOPs provide other critical services, including: (1) witnessing all advanced health care directives signed in LTC; (2) investigating abuse and neglect reports; (3) supporting resident and family councils; (4) training and community education; and (5) providing critical information, assistance, and referrals to residents, staff, and family members. (See [page 8 of our proposal](#).)

2024 Budget Ask for Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs



Request Amounts

- Additional facility visits = \$1,325,721
- Volunteer management = \$1,497,230
- Casework and activities = \$1,929,938
- Baseline budget increase = \$3,500,000
- Inflation adjustments = \$1,000,000
- **TOTAL = \$9,252,889**

Goals & Outcomes

1. Shore up at risk program funding
2. Increase unannounced quarterly facility visits
3. Engage 500 new volunteers to address 50% loss
4. Increase all services provided by local LTCOPs
5. Provide adequate baseline program funding
6. Address funding lost due to inflation since 2018

Funding Sources

- CDPH State Health Facilities Citations Account
- CDPH Licensing & Certification Fund reserves
- DHCS AB-186 Accountability Sanctions Program
- Managed MediCal Transition Plan funds

Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program

2022 Federal Fiscal Year

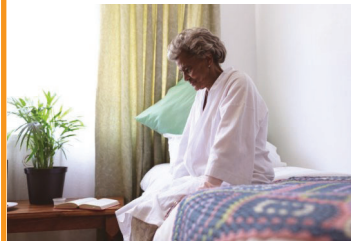
- Local programs = 35
- Paid FTEs/staff = 176
- Volunteers (part-time) = 384
- Total cases/complaints = 40,003
- Total information and assistance = 81,039
- Skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) = 1,206
- RCFEs (assisted living facilities) = 7,469
- SNFs visited quarterly = 69.15%
- RCFEs visited quarterly = 53.84%
- LTC beds per FTE/staff = 1,800.95
- LTC beds per volunteer = 826.23
- Baseline funding per program = \$100,000

To support this request, or to reach out with any questions or concerns, contact:

Jason Sullivan-Halpern, J.D., *Director*
CA Long-Term Care Ombudsman Association
Jason@CLTCOA.org | (916) 642-9447

The LTCOP is the *only* program in California that provides advocacy services in long-term care. LTC Ombudsman representatives serve as resident-centered advocates resolving complaints to the satisfaction of the resident while maintaining confidentiality. Our role is to preserve residents' autonomy and promote quality of life and care for all residents of California's long-term care facilities.

Meet "Mabel"

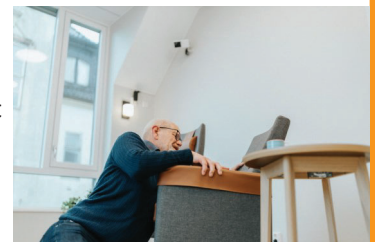


Mabel lived in a skilled nursing facility. Her husband, John, who is also elderly and has trouble walking, often visited Mabel. One day, John accidentally fell on top of Mabel during their visit. Facility

staff claimed that John tried to attack Mabel and prevented John from visiting Mabel further. In response, John contacted the Ombudsman program for help. The local Ombudsman was able to talk to Mabel and facility staff to clear up the confusion and remind them of residents' rights to visitation. The Ombudsman even volunteered to be present at their next visit to ensure it went smoothly. Mabel and John hugged each other and cried tears of joy when they could finally see each other again.

"Arthur" Needed Our Help

When Arthur's head cleared from the medication after surgery, he couldn't understand why he was in a locked dementia facility. He just wanted to go home with his son. But his Durable Power of Attorney (DPOA) and the facility administrator said he could not leave. When the Ombudsman met with him on a routine visit, it was clear that Arthur did not require this level of care. The Ombudsman confirmed her suspicions that Arthur had no



diagnosis from a doctor in his medical record to prevent him from going home safely. Working with his son, the Ombudsman brought in law enforcement, who agreed that he could go home. Arthur is now living a quality life with his son, his DPOA is changed, and he is so very grateful for the Ombudsman's support.



May 1, 2023

The Honorable Anthony J. Portantino
Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 7630
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: SB 37 (Caballero) - Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities Housing Stability Act
SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Portantino,

The California Association of Public Authorities for In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) (CAPA) is pleased to support SB 37 (Caballero), which would create the Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities Housing Stability Act.

CAPA represents Public Authorities (PAs) and Non-Profit Consortia operating in 55 counties; PAs ensure the IHSS program in every county meets the needs of older adults and people with disabilities. This is a vital service to maintain the independence and dignity of Californians and keep people in their homes with their caregiver – but housing costs continue to rise putting this population at risk of losing support services.

California has the second highest rate of poverty among older adults in the country, leading to an increased risk of hunger and homelessness. Older Californians and people with disabilities who do not qualify for free Medi-Cal are eligible for services but need to pay a portion of their monthly income which is known as a share of cost (SOC). High SOC forces aging adults and people with disabilities to choose between rent, food, or health care. This Act can assist people with the high cost of housing so that adults who can live independently do so with enough money to pay for rising costs of food, medication, and transportation.

This Act supports the goals Master Plan on Aging and takes the necessary next step to keep older adults and people with disabilities in their homes and not in skilled nursing facilities or institutions which adds additional cost and burden to our health care system. For these reasons, CAPA supports SB 37 (Caballero) and respectfully asks for your AYE vote.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Kim Rothschild'.

Kim Levy Rothschild
Executive Director

cc: Members, Senate Appropriations Committee
Senator Anna M. Caballero
County Welfare Directors Association of California
California State Association of Counties



January 4, 2024

The Honorable Blanca Pacheco
 California State Assembly
 1021 O Street, Suite 6240
 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 817 (PACHECO) LOCAL GOVERNMENT: OPEN MEETINGS – SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Pacheco:

On behalf of the California Association of Public Authorities for In-Home Supportive Services (CAPA), the California In-Home Supportive Services Consumer Alliance (CICA), and the undersigned organizations, we write to express our **strong support for AB 817 (Pacheco)**. This bill helps older adults and people with disabilities participate remotely in local commissions, advisory committees, and boards.

Older adults and people with disabilities provide a critical voice in their communities and an invaluable perspective to local government. These individuals should have the opportunity to serve on boards and commissions. However, the current in-person meeting requirements in the Brown Act present many challenges to older adults and people with disabilities — resulting in a diminution of ability to attend in-person meetings on a regular basis — or for many, to participate at all.

This bill supports the principles of the Americans with Disabilities Act. It allows reasonable accommodation, by meeting remotely, for people who (in many cases), would need to travel hours each way to attend in person. This travel requirement can be burdensome for those who require paratransit vehicles, gurney, and/or ventilators. Simply to attend a meeting, these necessary accommodations can cost hundreds of dollars — a cost prohibitive expense for many people.

As you know, local governments face ongoing challenges in recruitment and retention of members of the public for advisory bodies, boards, and commissions. The COVID-19 pandemic drove both hyper-awareness and concerns about the spread of infectious diseases, as well as removed barriers to local civic participation by allowing remote participation. This enabled individuals who could not otherwise accommodate the participation requirements to engage locally, giving access to leadership opportunities and providing communities with greater diversified input on critical issues.

Addressing barriers for all people to participate in civic engagement to achieve diverse representation is not only crucial to this state, but also the right thing to do.

The in-person requirement for participation in local advisory bodies like the *In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Advisory Committees*, has been challenging. The difficulty arises in finding IHSS consumers who can attend in-person meetings to represent the consumer voice in IHSS, a life-saving social service program. IHSS serves over 700,000 consumers, and by the nature of this program, those who would be advising the public authorities and boards of supervisors are mostly older adults and people with disabilities who need supportive services.

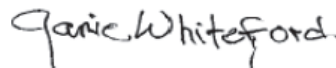
AB 817 would help address these issues by providing a narrow exemption under the Brown Act for non-decision-making legislative bodies that do not take final action on any legislation, regulations, contracts, licenses, permits, or other entitlements, to meet remotely.

We believe that the ability of all people to serve on commissions and boards will improve quality of life overall. For these reasons, we are pleased to support AB 817 (Pacheco). If you have questions regarding this bill, please contact Alyssa Silhi at (916) 505-4978 and/or Johnnie Pina at (916) 802-4997.

Sincerely,



Kim Levy Rothschild
Executive Director
California Association of Public Authorities for IHSS



Janie Whiteford
President
California IHSS Consumer Alliance



Hagar Dickman
Senior Attorney
Justice in Aging



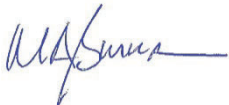
Pam Miller
Executive Director
Area 4 Agency on Aging



Eric Harris
Director of Public Policy
Disability Rights California



Kim Selfon
Medi-Cal and IHSS Policy Specialist
Bet Tzedek



Mark Burns
Executive Director
Homebridge



Charlotte Dickerson
Executive Director
Village Movement California



Stacy Kono
Executive Director
Hand in Hand: The Domestic Employers Network

Susan L. (Tink) Miller

Susan "Tink" Miller
Executive Director
Placer Independent Resources Services

cc: Members and Staff, Assembly Local Government Committee
Ronda Paschal, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Governor's Office of Legislative Affairs
California State Association of Counties
California Welfare Directors Association



May 10, 2023

The Honorable Chris Holden, Chair
Assembly Appropriations Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 5650
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 1157 (Ortega) - Rehabilitative and habilitative services: durable medical equipment and services - SUPPORT

Dear Chair Holden,

The California Association of Public Authorities for In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) (CAPA) is pleased to support AB 1157 (Ortega), which would specify that coverage of rehabilitative and habilitative services and devices under a health care service plan or health insurance policy includes durable medical equipment (DME), services, and repairs, if the equipment, services, or repairs are prescribed or ordered by a physician, surgeon, or other health professional acting within the scope of their license.

CAPA represents Public Authorities (PAs) and Non-Profit Consortia operating in 55 counties; PAs ensure the IHSS program in every county meets the needs of older adults and people with disabilities. This is a vital service to maintain the independence and dignity of Californians and keep people in their homes with their caregiver(s).

Many older adults and people with disabilities need DME to thrive in their homes and expanding access to equipment and services ensures more Californians will be able to maintain their daily activities. This bill supports the goals of the Master Plan on Aging offering access to services people need and closes the equity gap on medically necessary equipment required to ensure quality of life for Californians.

For these reasons, CAPA supports AB 1157 (Ortega) and respectfully asks for your AYE vote.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Kim Rothschild'.

Kim Levy Rothschild
Executive Director

cc: Members, Assembly Appropriations Committee
Assemblymember Liz Ortega
County Welfare Directors Association of California
California State Association of Counties

Market Match is a Food Safety Net Program that Sustains Local Economy

About Statewide Market Match Program

Market Match is a 15 year-old program funded by federal, state and private funds that incentivizes CalFresh (known as SNAP on a federal level) recipients to spend their benefits with California farmers on fresh fruits and vegetables. The program provides a dollar-for-dollar match on CalFresh purchases, up to a daily maximum, at hundreds of locations across 38 California counties.

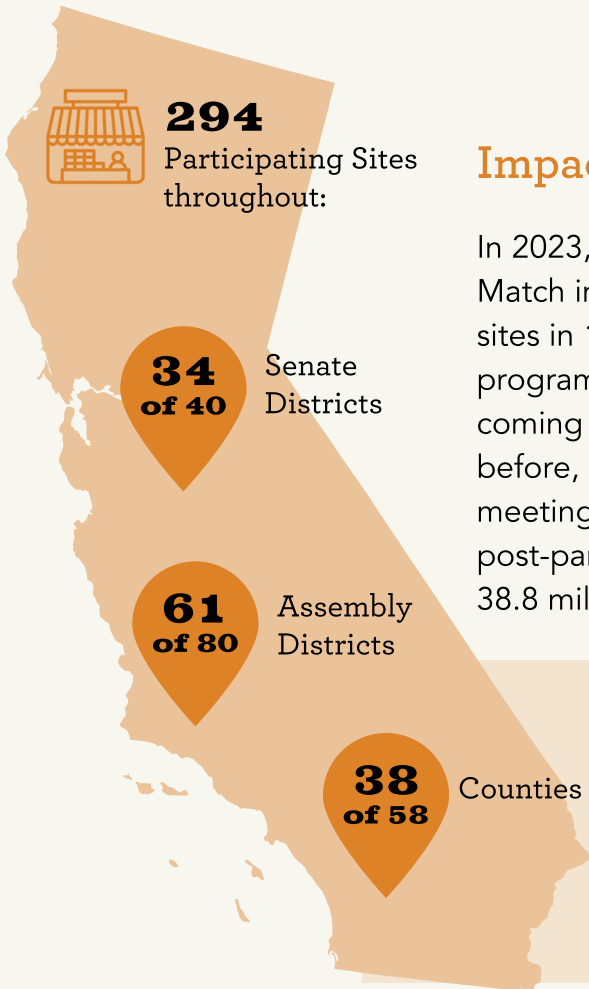
Economic Impact

State funding for Market Match is part of a federal matching program that brought \$30 million into California between 2017 and 2023. If funded, Market Match is expected to bring more than \$13 million into California next year.

Researchers estimate that for every \$1 of Market Match spent, an additional \$3 is generated in the California economy.⁽¹⁾

Impact in 2023

In 2023, the Program led to \$19.4 million in spending of Market Match incentives and CalFresh/SNAP at over 574,000 visits to 294 sites in 116 cities across 38 counties in California. The Market Match program continued to reach new participants with 9% or 51,000 visits coming from CalFresh recipients who had not used the program before, showing us that Market Match is a safety net program meeting the growing needs of low income Californians during and post-pandemic. We estimate that the program led to the purchase of 38.8 million servings of CA grown fresh fruits and vegetables. ⁽²⁾



\$19.4 Million

CalFresh & Market Match Spent with Local Farmers

=



38.8 Million
Estimated Servings of Fruits & Vegetables

1. "The Economic Contributions of Healthy Food Incentives" Dawn Thilmany, Allison Bauman, Erin Love, Becca B. R. Jablonski. Colorado State University. 2021 https://marketmatch.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Economic_Contributions_Incentives.pdf
 2. According to the USDA ERS, one serving of fruits and vegetables costs \$0.50: <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/fruit-and-vegetable-prices/>



2024-25 State Budget Funds Needed to Meet Low-Income Californians' Fresh Food Access and to Support Economic Recovery

Market Match is currently funded through the CDFA California Nutrition Incentive Program (CNIP) and the USDA Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program. The Market Match program reinvests state and federal dollars into small and mid-sized farms and the rural California communities where they are located and increases the spending power of low-income Californians, which is needed now more than ever. However without committed state funds in the next fiscal year, the program will not be able to continue past 2024. The GusNIP competitive grant program application period will be in FY23-24, and it requires a committed, 100% match of state, local or private funding.

An investment of \$35 million of state funds into CNIP could bring significant federal dollars into the state and will lead to tremendous economic impact for the state since every \$1 invested in Market Match results in an additional \$3 to the local economy.



”
I'm eating better because I can afford to get fresh food, fresh vegetables and fruit that I wouldn't get otherwise.

- Market Match Customer

Counties Served:

Alameda, Butte, Colusa, Contra Costa, Del Norte, El Dorado, Fresno, Humboldt, Kern, Lake, Los Angeles, Madera, Marin, Mendocino, Modoc, Monterey, Napa, Orange, Riverside, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Siskiyou, Solano, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Tehama, Tulare, Ventura, Yolo, and Yuba

The Ecology Center is lead contractor under the CDFA Office to Farm to Fork's California Nutrition Incentive Program responsible for implementing the Market Match program statewide. The Ecology Center subcontracts with 50+ local partners to implement Market Match in 38 California counties. For more information visit www.MarketMatch.org.





Sonoma County Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council Meeting

Agenda

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

In-Person: Carnelian Conference Room, 3725 Westwind Blvd. Santa Rosa 95403

- 1:00 **1. Welcome, Introductions** (Helman)
- 1:02 **2. Approval of 02.21.24 Advisory Council Meeting Minutes** (Helman)
- 1:05 **3. New Member Applicant: McCabe – Action** (Helman)

BREAK FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 1:10 **Public Hearing: 2024 – 2028 Area Plan Presentation** (Shaat/Helman/Parrish)
- 1:20 **Public Comment**
- 1:30 **Public Hearing: Request for Proposal Funding Award & Contract Allocations**
(Helman/Parrish)
- 1:40 **Public Comment**

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING RECONVENED

- 2:00 **4. Director/Staff Report**
- Legislative Actions Update
 - Local Aging & Disability Action Plan Update
- 2:20 **5. Ad Hoc: Goals & Objectives Reporting Launch** (Shaat/Thompson)
- 2:30 **6. Ad Hoc: Funding & Priorities Dissolution – Action** (Helman)
- 2:40 **7. California Senior Legislature/Triple A-Council of California (TACC) Updates**
(Kelley)
- 2:50 **8. Public Comment and Council Member Open Forum**
- 3:00 **9. Adjourn** (Helman)

Attachments: Minutes (02.21.24), Public Hearing Slides, Legislative Materials

Supplemental materials related to an agenda item are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Adult & Aging Office, 3725 Westwind Blvd., Suite 101, Santa Rosa. All listed times are approximate and subject to change. Agenda items are scheduled for consideration by the Advisory Council, which may or may not choose to act. Breaks may be called at the discretion of the Chair. If you need any accommodations to effectively participate, please contact aaa@schsd.org or (707) 565-5238 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. To submit items for the AAA Newsletter, or to receive the AAA Newsletter: AAA@schsd.org.

Advisory Council Executive Committee Members: **Chair:** Diane Spain **Vice Chair:** Jenny Helman
Secretary: Deanna Shaat **Former Chair:** Terry Kelley **Parliamentarian:** Trayce Beards **Advisory Council Members:** Rick Baum, Kerrily Beaton, Suzanne Edwards, Sandra Hoevertsz, Erick Larson, Freddy Piedrahita, Alain Serkissian, Don Streeper, Phyllis Sutter, Robin Thompson