

SAVE SENIOR AND DISABILITY COMMUNITY SERVICES!



THE SILVER TSUNAMI IS COMING!

Right now Mayor Newsom and the Board of Supervisors are in the process of creating this year's City Budget.

By 2030, 1 in 5 San Franciscans will be over the age of 65.

San Francisco is NOT ready for this wave and we urge the Mayor to do the right thing and adequately fund the home and community based system NOW.

We ask Mayor Newsom and the Board of Supervisors to create a budget that respects SF elders and keeps them out of more expensive institutions like hospitals and nursing homes.

We want Mayor Newsom and the Board of Supervisors to restore the \$7 million cut from Senior and Disability Programs and the \$100 million from the Department of Public Health!

Call the Mayor and Supervisors now and tell them that Seniors and People with Disabilities should not be harmed by this budget.

Mayor Gavin Newsom: 554-6141

District One (The Richmond)
Eric Mar 554-7410

District Two (The Marina)
Michela Alioto-Pier 554-7752

District 3 (North Beach/Chinatown)
David Chiu 554-7450

District 4 (Outer Sunset)
Carmen Chu 554-7460

District 5 (Haight and Western Addition)
Ross Mirkarimi 554-7630

District 6 (Tenderloin/SOMA/North Mission/Hayes Valley)
Chris Daly 554-7970

District 7 (West of Twin Peaks/Parkmerced)
Sean Elsbernd 554- 6516

District 8 (Castro and Noe Valley)
Bevan Dufty 554-6968

District 9 (Mission)
David Campos 554-5144

District 10 (Bayview and Potrero Hill)
Sophie Maxwell 554-7670

District 11 (Excelsior)
John Avalos 554-6975

Coalition of Agencies Serving the Elderly (CASE) San Francisco Advocacy Statement

The Coalition of Agencies Serving the Elderly (CASE) represents more than 45 agencies that provide a continuum of services that empower seniors in San Francisco to age in place with dignity and with the support structures necessary to thrive. **CASE serves over 40,000* seniors and people with disabilities and we are committed to increasing their participation in the city budget process.** Our goal is to be a visible and active part of the ongoing policy dialogue.

We recognize that we are living through one of the most challenging economic environments in 70 years. However, it is precisely in these times that our most vulnerable citizens, including the elderly, need our help the most. As we make tough decisions in the short-term, it is important that we remember:

1. **We cannot afford to dismantle a continuum of care that will be needed to serve the greatest expansion of the senior population in our history.** By 2030, 1 in 5 of San Francisco residents will be over the age of 65 and the number of residents over the age of 85 will double.
2. **We cannot afford to be ‘penny wise and pound foolish’** – Home and Community based services reduce utilization of more costly alternatives – hospitals, Skilled Nursing facilities, etc. Diminishing or dismantling community-based services will increase usage of these more costly alternatives. In addition, our core medical/ institutional services are inadequate and overburdened and cannot absorb increased demand that will follow reductions in home-based care.
3. **We cannot afford to break our social contract with seniors.** We believe a society is judged by how it treats its most vulnerable members. Home and community-based services are part of a continuum of care for seniors and adults with disabilities so that they are able to live safely with dignity and independence in their homes and communities.
4. **We cannot afford to lose valued resources - Community providers operate efficiently, leverage resources, and are highly capable of responding quickly to the needs of the community.** Programs and resources (buildings, etc.) that have developed over years, once cut may be difficult and costly to re-establish once funding increases again. Cutting senior services will mean that seniors will have less access to services that meet their basic needs (a meal, access to information and healthcare, to participate in social activities, etc.) while increasing their chances of isolation and hospitalization.

CASE Member Agencies: Bernal Heights Neighborhood Ctr., CA Assoc. for Older Americans, CANHR, Catholic Charities CYO, Centro Latino of SF, Curry Senior Center, Dept. of Human Services, Elder Care Network, Episcopal Community Services- Canon Kip Center, Family Caregiver Alliance, Family Service Agency, Golden Gate Senior Services, IHSS Consortium, IHSS Public Authority, Institute on Aging, International Institute of SF, Italian American Comm. Services., Jewish Community Ctr.-SF, Jewish Family and Children's Services., Legal Assistance to the Elderly, Lighthouse for the Blind, Meals on Wheels SF, New Leaf Outreach to Elders, Northern California Presbyterian Homes, North & South of Market, San Francisco Adult Day Health , 30th St. Senior Center, Planning for Elders, Project Open Hand, St. Anthony Foundation, St. Francis Living Room, SF Food Bank, SF Senior Centers, Self-Help for the Elderly, Senior Action Network, Veterans Equity Center, Western Addition Senior Center, AARP, Aunt Ann's Home Care, Lifewell Assistive Services, Stegner Registry