



CARA Alert – February 7, 2020

A publication of the California Alliance for Retired Americans

CA MASTER PLAN ON AGING – “WEBINAR WEDNESDAYS”

Many of you have expressed interest in participating in the Master Plan on Aging discussions and offering your input and insight. These started on January 15, 2020, and the CA Dept. on Aging will be hosting them weekly every Wednesday, from 9:30am – 11am. Each week will focus on a different topic to gather input and recommendations for the Master Plan on Aging. Go to the NEW Master Plan on Aging website: www.engageca.org and you will get the call in and Zoom information and the list of topics by week.

The California Department of Aging’s new campaign, EngageCA, is designed to encourage Californians from every walk of life to get involved in the development of the Master Plan for Aging. In order to reach diverse communities across the state, the campaign’s website is now available in Spanish and Chinese – two of the most widely-spoken languages in California.

Now is your chance to make sure the Master Plan is focused on equity and diversity: Share www.engageCA.org, www.engageCA-espanol.org, or www.engageCA-chinese.org in your communities to give as many Californians as possible the opportunity to share their vision for a robust and reliable system of services and supports, from health care to housing and transportation, that can support an equitable, age-and disability-friendly California!

THE FIRST HEALTHY CA COMMISSION MEETING A STEP FORWARD CARA helps fill the room with Single Payer Advocates!

The Healthy California for All Commission met for the first time on Monday, January 27th in Sacramento. Healthcare justice activists – many from CARA and Healthy California Now attended this historic hearing to let the Commissioners know that a single payer plan is the only solution to California's health care crisis. **A sincere thank you and kudos to everyone who attended!** The Commissioners heard presentations from representatives of the Consultant Team and all the presentations included comparative data and research that brought to light the advantages of a single payer plan.

"We are cautiously hopeful and will work with the Commission to ensure it meets its purpose and goals," said Cindy Young, President of Healthy California Now.

Please note that all of the presentations and a video recording of the day-long meeting are available on the Commission’s website: <https://www.chhs.ca.gov/healthycaforall/> under “Meeting Information” on the main page. The next Commission meeting is on Monday, April 6, 2020 — please save the date and we will follow up with details as they are announced.

SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES FIRST PETITIONS

Help CARA collect 10,000 signatures by March 20, 2020

Please continue to send in your completed petitions to the CARA office, or mail them to our office. You can also turn completed petitions in person at the CARA office: our address is 600 Grand Ave. Suite 410, Oakland, CA. 94610.

We also need to get senior organizations to endorse this campaign. You can get an endorsement form on the CARA website by going to our SCF button on the home page (www.californiaalliance.org). If you would like someone to speak to your organization about SCF, contact CARA at 877-223-6107.

SENIOR AND DISABILITY IN-THE-DISTRICT ADVOCACY DAY

SAVE THE DATE: MAY 15, 2020

This year CARA is organizing our Senior and Disability advocacy Day in the 120 legislative districts – all on May 15th. If you would like to meet with your State Assemblymember or Senator with other seniors and people with disabilities on key issues, in their local district office, sign up today. Email caralobby@gmail.com and let us know which legislators you would like to meet with. We will get back to you with the time, location and list of others who will attend with you.

A VIRTUAL CAT IS COMING TO CARA SOON

Have you always wanted to be part of one of CARA's Action Teams (we have 17 across the state now), but there is not one in your area, or the one that meets is too hard to get to or on the wrong day? CARA is working on creating a **VIRTUAL CAT** where folks who cannot attend in person can meet once a month via teleconference and/or ZOOM video and find out what CARA is up to and get involved directly with our work. If you are interested in finding out more about the formation of a **VIRTUAL CAT**, contact Jenni at jennichang.cara@gmail.com or Susan at smeyer.cara@gmail.com. We want to find out how many people would be interested before we kick this off, so please email Jenni or Susan by Feb. 29, 2020.

Get Social With CARA. Did you know that CARA is on Facebook? Learn about our local activities and meetings, town halls and about other news affecting retirees. **[Be sure to like our CARA Facebook page here.](#)** Make sure your friends and family like this page too. Help retirees build power by liking CARA's Facebook page. Every like and share helps spread our message.

You can contact CARA at:

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