



CARA Alert – January 1, 2020

A publication of the California Alliance for Retired Americans

Happy New Year

STAFF CHANGES AT CARA and 2020

We hope you had a wonderful holiday season, and were able to recharge your batteries for what is sure to be a busy 2020. We reported in the last CARA Alert that we are undergoing some staffing changes – and we are still in the midst of this transition. We received hundreds of resumes for our Administrative Coordinator position and will be interviewing candidates in early 2020 and hope to have someone in place soon. In the meantime, please have patience as our staff and volunteers will work to return your calls as soon as possible and answer any questions you might have. All of our CARA Action Team Meetings, Legislative Meetings and program activities will reconvene per our usual schedule starting in January.

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. Starting on January 15, 2020, the CA Dept. on Aging will be hosting weekly, topic specific webinars that are open to the public and will help inform the development of the Master Plan on Aging. Here are the details:

Beginning January 15, 2020, *Webinar Wednesdays* will delve into a single topic each week, ranging from housing and homelessness to transportation and retirement security, among others. Each webinar will feature a local leader, state partner, Stakeholder Advisory Committee member, and opportunities for participants to provide feedback in real-time.

Join Us for Master Plan for Aging: Webinar Wednesdays!

- Tune in every Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- Access and participate in webinars by phone, tablet, or computer.
- [Download the Zoom app/desktop program](#). We encourage all users to familiarize themselves with the system requirements before the webinar. Learn more about [joining a Zoom meeting/webinar here](#).
- Host a watch party: We encourage you to participate in webinars as a group

You can find the schedule of topics and complete information about the Master Plan on Aging by going to the new website: www.engage@aging.ca.gov

**SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES FIRST PETITIONS
KEEP THEM COMING!!!!**

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 in at the CARA office: our address is 600 Grand Ave. Suite 410, Oakland, CA. 94610. You can also bring your completed petitions and pick up more at our January 2020 CAT meetings.

The SCF Campaign needs to collect 1.2 million signatures by March 20, 2020 (CARA has committed to collecting at least 10,000!). In order to meet our goal, we really need to pick up the pace. We have submitted about 1000 signatures to the campaign so far- 1/10th of the way there. We will be organizing signature collection/outreach events at our CAT meetings. Let us know if you would like to participate in your area.

**HEALTHY CA COMMISSION APPOINTED
First meeting on January 27, 2020**

Governor Gavin Newsom announced on December 18, 2019 the launch of the Healthy California for All Commission and appointed health experts in business, philanthropy, academia and labor to serve. The Commission will work to develop a plan for advancing progress toward achieving a health care delivery system for California that provides coverage and access through a unified financing system, including, but not limited to a single payer financing system. The Commission will prepare an initial report to the Governor and Legislature by July 2020 with a final report in February 2021. **The first meeting will take place Jan. 27, 2020 in Sacramento. Healthy CA Now and CARA are organizing caravans to attend this first meeting.** We need to be there to show our support for this effort and to encourage the Commission to focus on a Medicare for All System. Please stay tuned to CARA alerts for details on this meeting and CARA's role.

The commission has 13 voting members including Secretary Ghaly, eight gubernatorial appointees and four legislative appointees. There are also five ex-officio, non-voting members. You can go to the Governor's website at govpressoffice@gov.ca.gov to find the full list of appointees to this commission and a brief biography of each of them.

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:

CARA, 600 Grand Ave. #410, Oakland, CA 94610

NORTH: 510-663-4086 • 510-663-4099 (fax) • jreid.cara@gmail.com

CENTRAL VALLEY: 714-488-5488 • Vishnu.cara@gmail.com

SOUTH:

LA COUNTY: 917-434-3220 • jennichang.cara@gmail.com

ORANGE/SAN DIEGO: 714-460-3542 • smeyer.cara@gmail.com

OTHER SOUTHERN CA COUNTIES: 714-488-5488 • Vishnu.cara@gmail.com

TOLLFREE 1-877-223-6107 • www.californiaalliance.org