



## **CARA Alert – June 4, 2020**

A publication of the California Alliance for Retired Americans

### **BLACK LIVES MATTER**

#### **JUNE 4<sup>TH</sup> AT NOON – STATEWIDE ACTION AND TWITTER STORM AGAINST HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICE BUDGET CUTS**

**STEP 1:** Reach out to your members and list and identify 3-5 stories about the impacts of the Governor's #CABudget on vulnerable seniors, health equity, and access to care.

**STEP 2:** Tweet your stories on Thursday 6/4, 12-1 pm! Tweet by text, graphic, or video. IMPORTANT: Add the hashtag: #CareNotCuts. Tag: @Rendon63rd, @toniatkins & @GavinNewsom

**STEP 3:** Spread the word and retweet others' stories! If you don't use twitter, you can send an email to the Governor on his website at [www.gov.ca.gov](http://www.gov.ca.gov); Senator Toni Atkins at [senator.atkins@senate.ca.gov](mailto:senator.atkins@senate.ca.gov); Speaker Anthony Rendon at [assemblymember.rendon@assembly.ca.gov](mailto:assemblymember.rendon@assembly.ca.gov).

#### **VICTORY!!!!!! HEALTHY CA COMMISSION TO MEET ON JUNE 12TH**

One of CARA's top issues that we highlighted in our May 15<sup>th</sup> Virtual Lobby Day meetings was to ask legislators to demand that the Governor, and Secretary Ghaly of the CA Dept of Health and Human Services reconvene the Governor's Healthy CA Commission, whose meetings have been suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Our argument was that in these devastating times, we have learned just how broken our health care system is- with many people losing coverage that was employment based, or not having the resources to pay for the premiums and out of pocket costs – at a time when people need access to care the most. The Healthy CA Commission was established to help chart a path toward a more comprehensive, stream-lined health care plan for California, including but not limited to a single payer plan. Due to our advocacy, and that of organizations like Healthy CA Now, Secretary Ghaly has announced the next meeting of the Healthy CA Commission.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO EVERYONE FOR HELPING TO MAKE THIS HAPPEN.**

Here are the details:

#### **Healthy CA for All Commission to Hold Virtual Meeting June 12**

The Healthy California for All Commission will hold a virtual Zoom meeting Friday, June 12, continuing its 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. At the June 12 meeting,

Commission members will review a draft of the Commission's first deliverable, an environmental analysis of health care delivery, coverage and financing in California. The environmental analysis incorporates updates to reflect the realities of the COVID-19 pandemic. Commission members will also consider an updated work plan, including the addition of small focus groups to inform the future work of the Commission. The agenda is available at this [link](#) and more information is available on the Healthy California for All [website](#).

**When:** 10 a.m. - 12 Noon, Friday, June 12, 2020

**Where:** Virtual Meeting Information:

Please register in advance for this meeting by using the Zoom registration link : [Click here to register for the meeting](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with meeting details.

## **SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES FIRST CAMPAIGN TOWN HALL JUNE 10<sup>TH</sup> AT 5:30 – YOU MUST RSVP TO ATTEND**

On May 28<sup>th</sup>, the Secretary of State announced that the Schools and Communities First Initiative has qualified for the November 2020. A big congratulations goes to everyone who helped collect signatures, speak to groups and to friends, and who participated in forums to promote this measure that will raise up to \$12 billion per year for local schools and community services by making corporations pay their fair share in property taxes.

### **JOIN THE CELEBRATION ON JUNE 10TH**

In just over five months, Californians will be able to correct a historical wrong and finally invest critical resources in underfunded communities. Now that the initiative will be on the ballot, join us in helping get it passed! Join us for a virtual town hall on June 10th at 5:30 PM!

**RSVP >>**

**Are you ready to help make meaningful progress in California? Then, JOIN US on Wednesday, June 10, at 5:30 PM for a virtual town hall as we plan the campaign that will win in November and make historic change in California. Now more than ever, it's time to stand together. Join us!**

[Limited spots are available, so RSVP now!](#)

# **GOVERNOR'S MAY REVISED BUDGET A DISASTER FOR SENIORS and PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

## **BUT.... THERE IS HOPE.....**

As we described in our previous emails, the Governor's May Revised Budget for 2020-2021 is devastating for seniors, people with disabilities, and low-income Californians. We knew cuts would be massive, but the focus of many of the cuts are to programs that serve seniors and people with disabilities. We have been urging you, our CARA members and activists, to call the Governor AND your State Assembly members and Senators to vote against his proposals. And the Senate and Assembly have been listening. Both houses of the legislature have developed their own budget proposals that restore the essential health and social services we desperately need – especially in this time of COVID 19 – and every day. They are proposing to pay for these through a combination of new revenues, use of the rainy-day fund, and borrowing if needed.

We must continue to keep the pressure on!!!! The next 2 weeks are critical for our budget advocacy. Soon, the Senate and Assembly leadership teams will sit down with the Governor to hash out these different approaches to the budget. We must let our State Senators and Assembly members know that we support the budgets that restore essential programs for seniors and people with disabilities, and will stand behind them. Please call your elected officials today. Then, call the Governor at:

**Call Governor Newsom at 916-445-2841**

**TALKING POINTS: PLEASE SUPPORT THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY BUDGET PROPOSALS THAT RESTORE THE CUTS THAT THE GOVERNOR PROPOSED IN HIS BUDGET. WE MUST FUND THE ESSENTIAL PROGRAMS THAT KEEP SENIORS AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES SAFE AND SUPPORTED – AND OUT OF INSTITUTIONS. IF WE MUST CREATE NEW REVENUES, USE THE RAINY-DAY FUND, OR BORROW MONEY, WE MUST DO WHAT IS NECESSARY TO BUILD A BUDGET THAT SUPPORTS OUR MOST FRAIL AND VULNERABLE – NOT ONE THAT KILLS US.**

## **STOP IMMUNITY FOR NURSING HOMES**

Join us on Saturday, June 6th to grieve those lost in nursing homes, and to call for policy, testing, and PPE that will protect nursing home workers and residents alike. [Register here](#) to take part in our online vigil.

As part of a national COVID Memorial Weekend, we will read the names of some of the 28,100+ lost to COVID-19 in nursing homes and take a collective pause to grieve. Together, we will demand that Governor Newsom and CEO of Windsor Care Lee Samson put people over profits, so that this list of names does not grow today, tomorrow, next week.

Join us as we say NO to the ageism, ableism and anti-Black racism that have made many nursing homes especially dangerous and deadly during this pandemic. Join us as we say NO to the proposed budget cuts and NO to nursing home immunity.

If you or someone you know lives in a nursing home or has relatives there and would like a name read, please include their name in this form or reach out to [kayla@domesticemployers.org](mailto:kayla@domesticemployers.org).

Hosted by Hand in Hand, Senior Disability Action, CARA, SEIU 2015, and CRIL.

**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.

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