



CARA Alert – June 1st, 2021

A publication of the California Alliance for Retired Americans

Celebrate Pride Month – and the Senior Movement!

Dear Friends,

It's been 15 months since we began sheltering in place due to Covid 19 – and finally there seems to be a small light at the end of this long tunnel. Many of us have been vaccinated, and the state of California is planning to re-open on June 15th. Yet many of our family members, friends, and colleagues have suffered greatly during this pandemic, and some have died. We have a lot to be grateful for, and much to mourn. And at CARA – we have a lot to be proud of.

[See Video of Bill Sive here](#)

What better way to celebrate our perseverance, our tenacity, and our power as a senior movement than to participate in the activities and programs that CARA sponsors. Since June is PRIDE month, CARA will be sponsoring a Gay and Gray PRIDE celebration on June 11th as part of our Fabulous Friday Forums. We hope you can join us for that ([register here](#)).

CARA has worked hard to keep building our movement, educating our members and the public, and meeting with our legislators to advocate on the issues we care about. Hundreds of seniors and people with disabilities met with their legislators on May 21st at our virtual, statewide Senior Lobby Day, where we educated them about our key priorities and urged them to support the bills and the budget proposals that help us build a state that honors and supports our elders and people with disabilities.

At the national level, we have been fighting to save our postal service from privatization, and to eliminate the WEP/GPO and strengthen Social Security. We are also advocating for the Biden Administration's \$2 trillion infrastructure proposal that includes \$400 billion for home and community-based services, expansion of Medicare, and the PRO Act allowing workers to organize unions.

CARA's 17 Action Teams have continued to meet via Zoom and Teleconference every month – keeping each other connected and engaged in CARA's issues and on local



efforts in our communities to move our issues forward – on SSI, climate justice, eviction protections, utility rate reform and more.

We continue to fight against ageism, ableism and for racial, economic and social justice. We have offered 5 Fabulous Friday forums and leadership trainings... and hope to continue to sponsor these informative and fun events. And we are planning our 18th Annual Convention for Oct. 26th and 27th – which will be held virtually this year (hopefully for the last time).

We continue to grow and build our movement in 2021– even during this pandemic. But we need your help to take the next steps in ensuring that seniors, people with disabilities, and our families can age with dignity and independence.

I am writing today to let you know that CARA has had some financial challenges this year – as many of us have. Donations are down, and foundations are focusing on meeting basic needs like housing, and food – which they should. CARA is sponsoring an ON-LINE APPEAL on Tuesday, June 8th to try and raise at least \$4000 to help us meet our financial obligations. As we slowly start to re-open our offices and services a little more each week, CARA needs to ramp up our own fundraising to make our plans a reality. You can help us.

We will be sponsoring a Day of On-line giving on June 8th (you can mail a check too if you prefer).

CARA only asks for your support twice a year, and we are counting on the contributions of people like you to help us meet our fundraising goal

Please help us reach our goal by making a contribution of \$25, \$50, \$100 or of any amount you're able to make.

You'll be getting an email on June 8th asking for a contribution. Of course, you can donate now by [clicking here](#). **You can also send a check to the CARA office at 600 Grand Ave. #410, Oakland, CA 94610.**

In the meantime, let me take this moment to thank you for being part of the CARA family. And please join CARA on June 11th to Celebrate PRIDE month.

Thank you for and everything you do to improve the lives of seniors in our state.

In unity and with PRIDE,

Bill Sive, CARA Member from South L.A. CAT and Long Beach Gray Panthers

P.S. You can make your early donation for \$25, \$50 or \$100 by [clicking on the donate button today](#).