

CARA Alert – June 28, 2021

A publication of the California Alliance for Retired Americans

HAPPY 4TH OF JULY – CELEBRATE SAFELY!

HELP WIN \$400 BILLION FOR HOME AND COMMUNITY BASED CARE

We have a once in a lifetime opportunity to win billions of dollars for homecare access and homecare jobs in the Better Care, Better Care Jobs Act introduced last week. This plan includes \$400 billion for Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) that President Biden proposed in his infrastructure Plan. Although these dollars were originally part of the American Jobs Plan, there is now discussion about creating two plans in order to reach some bi-partisan support. However these proposals move forward, we must make our voices heard on why an investment in our care economy is essential. CARE CAN'T WAIT must be our rally cry.

We are planning to collect **400 stories** about why this \$400 billion is so important. We plan to deliver these stories as part of a **July 13th National Day of Action** to Speaker Pelosi and U.S. Senators Feinstein and Padilla (and will send to the entire CA Congressional delegation).

TELL YOUR STORY ABOUT WHY YOU SUPPORT FUNDING FOR HCBS

Please take 5 minutes now to fill in this [SHORT STORY FORM](#) and then email it to cynthial.cara@gmail.com. You can also print it and fax it to CARA (510-663-4099), mail it to CARA office at 600 Grand Ave. #410, Oakland, CA 94610. For your story to be counted it must be submitted by July 11, 2021. If you need assistance filling out the form, call the CARA office at 877-223-6107.

EVICITION MORATORIUM EXTENDED –

LET'S EXTEND THE UTILITY MORATORIUM TOO!

California will ban evictions for unpaid rent through the end of September and pay off all back rent for eligible tenants under a deal announced Friday by Gov. Gavin Newsom and legislative leaders. California banned evictions after Newsom imposed the nation's first statewide shutdown in March 2020 and ordered most businesses to close and people to stay home to slow the spread of the coronavirus. Those protections are scheduled to expire on Wednesday. The new agreement will extend the eviction moratorium through Sept. 30, 2021. To be eligible for \$5.2 billion provided by the federal government to California for this the effort, tenants must pay at least 25% of what they owe by Sept. 30, sign a declaration that they have had economic hardship because of COVID-19 and must earn 80% or less of the area median income.

CARA has joined with TURN and Reclaim our Power to extend the moratorium on utility shut-offs. We just learned that a CPUC commissioner will propose an extension to the shutoff moratorium that is set to expire June 30th! Californians need the extra time for the state and federal resources we fought for to kick in that will help us pay for our utility bills. **It'll be a fight to get the other commissioners to sign on. Can you take action with us? [Send an email to the CPUC!](#)**

Happy Birthday Social Security, Medicare/Medicaid/ USPS
Support the American Recovery Plan/\$400 BILLION for HCBS

JOIN CARA FOR A VIRTUAL CELEBRATION AND CONGRESSIONAL LOBBY DAY TRAINING

After a successful CARA lobby day on May 21st focused on our state legislators, it is now time to talk with our U.S. Congressional Representatives. During the month of August, Congress will be on recess for a district work period. We have an incredible opportunity to move some important national legislation forward to protect, improve and expand Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security, to win historic infrastructure investments, including home and community based services, and to protect and restore postal services. We need to talk with our Congressmembers about these issues and urge their support. Especially since 2022 is an election year, we need to know where our Congressmembers are on these issues.

Our July 30th Forum will be a celebration of the anniversaries of these programs AND a training for our August lobby days. Please register for the July 30th FORUM **here:**
[Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

If you would like to be part of the team that meets with your Congressmember, please email caralobby@gmail.com and give us your name, contact information and which Congressmember you would like to visit. There will be a Coordinator for each Congressional visit, and that Coordinator will inform you of the date and time of your meeting, which will be virtual. You can also call the CARA office with this information at 877-223-6107.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, July 13th : National Day of Action to support \$400 billion for Home and Community Based Services. There will be in person events in Oakland (Frank Ogawa Plaza) and L.A.(at the LA Trade Tech School at 400 Washington Blvd). The start times for these events will be between 10am-11am.

Friday, July 30th at Noon – Celebrate Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security and more!
Register here- [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

Tuesday Oct. 26th (10am-2pm) and Wednesday, Oct. 27th (10am – 12:30pm) –
CARA Statewide Convention (Virtual) – more details to come!!!! **SAVE THE DATES**

Contact CARA:

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