

# Department of Disability and Aging Services (DAS) Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

**DATE:** Wednesday, June 21, 2023

**TIME:** 10-11:30am

**PLACE:** 1650 Mission St. 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Golden Gate Room

*To protect the health of the Advisory Council members, DAS staff and members of the public during the COVID-19 health emergency, the DAS Advisory Council will continue to hold meetings remotely. Members of the public are encouraged to also participate in the meetings remotely.*

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**Members Present:** Diane Lawrence, Allen Cooper, Morningstar Vancil, Tia Small, Anne Warren, Steffany Dignum, Margaret Graf, Marcy Adelman, Eva Aber, Chris Dillon, Juliet Rothman, and Darlene Ramlose

**Members Absent Excused:** Morningstar Vancil

**WELCOME: Call to order and welcome** Council Members and guests

**Roll Call/Secretary**

**Motion to approve** June 21, 2023, Meeting Minutes: approved

**President Dearman's President's Report:** Director Dearman just returned from the CDA in Salt Lake City. Where members spoke on nationwide staffing shortages, talks on elder housing and issues of homelessness.

The budget in San Francisco is an ongoing issue where the local budget is about to be fully approved where DAS received \$380,000 of ongoing new budgets. Five addbacks from Board of Supervisors and \$100,000 from the Mayor. The Dignity Fund did not receive its \$3 million funding and it's not expected to be received next year. The cost of doing business has gone up to 3.75% per year. We expect a fair amount of advocacy for funds like the Dignity Fund.

Allen asked if we have never received the Dignity Fund allocation and Director Dearman replied only 1 other time.

**President Lawrence President's Report:** US Aging presents awards and Mike Zaugg will present next month on these awards at this meeting. The Justice of Aging and Analysis final budget was sent out and we looked at the funding including money for Homestead. At the DAS Commission yesterday the program budgets were released, and it was worth noting how much detail and in depth these items were.

**New Business:** Role of the Joint Legislative Committee was discussed and how they can reformat the JLC and their role in advocacy.

**Guest Speaker Deputy Director Cindy Kauffman on the Isolation Project:** Pilot program on isolation. Gave a PowerPoint presentation on the U-SIRS Case Presentation and how the case addressed isolation and loneliness and how to obtain client information. This presentation will be added as a supporting document for this meeting.

Deputy Director Kauffman fielded questions on how these questions were posed to the subjects of this study, and it was deduced male participants can be more vulnerable to isolation.

**Dignity Fund Report with Allen and Marcy** let the council know about Adithi's report on the Dignity Fund where they have been polling people about Dignity Funded services (which are part of DAS services). Two main points were: how much money went to the service and how much of that was impacted by the Dignity Fund and how will DAS go about letting official people know about the loss of these services. And who are the people who could use DAS services and not receiving them and how can we identify them.

Director Dearman said that was always an issue trying to find the appropriate people who need our services. Deputy Director Kauffman commented this is an annual report and let them know the funds might change frequently because of its fluidity.

**LGBTQ Updates from Marcy:** New State advisory group that will be beginning in about a week as a collaboration between the state and Project Open House to fully represent the aging LGBTQ population in California. Director Dearman

**Membership Updates:** Tia has a recommendation for District One appointment.

**Tracking a Bill: SB 657:** On homelessness and training to train staff to understand unhoused population & AB 559 Cal Senior Cit Advocacy Voluntary Tax that funds CSL.

### **Announcements**

Next meeting Wednesday August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 10:00am

**Adjournment** at 11:29am