

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

**DATE:** Wednesday, January 17, 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, Margaret Graf, Eva Aber, and Chris Dillon. Morningstar Vancil, Juliet Rothman, , Tia Small, Steffany Dignum and Anne Warren

**Members Absent Excused:** Eva Aber, Darlene Ramlose, and Marcy Adelman,

**Prsopective Members Present:** Lisa Cook, Renee Richards, and Ivy Chang

**WELCOME:** Call to order 10:01am and welcome Council Members and guests

**Roll Call/Secretary**

**Motion to approve November 39, 2023, Meeting Minutes:** approved.

**Director's Report, Deputy Director Cindy Kauffman:** Spoke on APEC and the success from DAS and their ability to deliver food throughout the exclusion zones during the conference. Spoke on SB43 which increases the role of Public Conservation which now includes a severe substance abuse disorder for people who cannot provide basic services for themselves. This started Jan 1, 2024 and we do not know the full specter of how many people this will affect so far. Budget also needs to match the Mayor's initiatives. State and Federal budgets also show shortfalls as well.

Deputy Director Kauffman next went over the details of the FY23-24 DAS Budget through programs, sources, and spoke on the budget deficits. Please see attached Budget attachment for all details. There is no surprise that there are slow revenue growths and over budget projections. Departments have been asked to bring down all budgets by 10% from the Mayor's Office for FY23-24 and FY 24-25. Also went over DAS programs and caseloads and how the number of clients in every program has increased.

Highlighted DAS programs such as IHSS, OCP, Public Conservator, and Benefits and Resources HUB and lastly gave the budget timeline.

Members thanked Deputy Kauffman for this great report.

**Public Comment:** No public comment

**New Business:**

- **Area Plan for 2024 presented by Adithi Velore from HSA Planning**

Presenter Velore gave a presentation on the progress report of the Area Plan from FY24-25 to FY 27-28 which is also posted on the DAS Advisory Council Site. Detailed guidance from the CDA and showed the timeline and high-level overview of the process. There will be a full draft of this plan in February to the Council and then over to the DAS Commission and public. Then in March this plan will be brought back to Adv Council for vote and subsequently brought back to the DAS Commission.

Goals and objectives are broken down in 5 goals: Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility; workforce and collaboration; employment and economic security; health and well-being; and safety and care.

Questions from council member Vancil about protection for LGBTQ+ rights for benefits which Deputy Director Kauffman spoke on and council member Rothman asked about other partnerships and inclusion which presenter Velore spoke on and addressed.

Many members spoke on the upcoming changes and presenter Velore wanted to let everyone know that she will send out this report to all members and will be posted and available for the public. Velore also passed out a demographics survey and a digital version for all members.

- **Consumer Grievance Process** presented by Deputy Director Mike Zaugg. Presenter Zaugg thanked the council and gave a history of the complaint/grievance process. The 3<sup>rd</sup> level of the grievance process for DAS clients is a formal meeting in the Advisory Council. The updated version has the 2<sup>nd</sup> level ending at 30 days and the 3<sup>rd</sup> level where the grievance will come to the Advisory Council and might not be comfortable with this being the final say. The council will have a meeting and then will issue an ‘advisory decision’ and the Director Dearman will have 30 days to decide to impart this decision or go in another direction. If the grievance is against the executive director, this will then go to the President of the advisory council. After the 30 days the final decision will be in writing, and this will be the final step in the grievance process.

**Member Updates:** President Lawrence noted that the first Joint Legislative Meeting is in February 2024.

**Updates from California State Legislators:** Anne Warren said there are no current updates.

President Lawrence also let us know that there are now 2 openings for CSL members that work on legislation for seniors and persons' with disabilities get bills passed in the state house.

**Adjournment** at 11:32am