

DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITY AND AGING SERVICES  
COMMISSION (DAS)  
MINUTES OCTOBER 6, 2021

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME/President Martha Knutzen

Commissioner Knutzen called the meeting to order.

The (DAS) Commission Secretary called the roll:

Present: Commissioners Sascha Bittner, Wanda Jung, Martha Knutzen, Nelson Lum, Barbara Sklar, Janet Spears

Absent: Commissioner Michelle Carrington

DAS Executive Director, Kelly Dearman, was present.

Communications:

Commission Secretary Jasmine Bellow provided instructions for any members of the public that would like to submit a public comment to the DAS Commission.

Approval of Minutes:

No public comment.

A motion to approve the September 1, 2021 DAS Commission Meeting Minutes.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Absent: Commissioner Michelle Carrington

Approval of Agenda item 4A, a Resolution Making Findings to Allow Teleconferenced Meetings of the DAS Commission:

After President Knutzen read the resolution, Commissioner Bittner commented that it is a good idea, “meeting virtually is easier than going to City Hall for commission meetings, and that even though we are doing really well in San Francisco, since we serve seniors and people with disabilities, we need to be extra careful.”

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Francisco Da Costa, Director of Environmental Justice Advocacy, commented that 30% of San Franciscans have some kind of disability. “The DAS Commission has done a very poor job with outreach. Making superficial statements does not count. Actions count. A lot of mentally and physically challenged people have issues with food security—how are you helping them? A lot of seniors who are physically challenged aren’t being given the opportunity to get vaccinated.” Mr. Da Costa states he took it upon himself to provide transportation to [physically challenged seniors to] a center to get a vaccination [sic]. “I got no response from the DAS Commission after I made my comment. This pandemic has been with us for 19+ months, what have you done to serve those who need help most? Where can we get the data? Is there a website with the true data? Stop making general statements. We, the physically challenged, the mentally challenged, the seniors want good actions, good actions that come from a clean heart. Stop making general statements.”

A motion to approve the resolution making findings to allow teleconferenced meetings of the DAS Commission.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Absent: Commissioner Michelle Carrington

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT/Kelly Dearman

DAS Executive Director Kelly Dearman’s report addressed the initiatives at the state and local levels.

State eviction prevention funding update: The state eviction moratorium ended September 30. The communications team has been working on disseminating funding information the state is making available for eviction prevention activities. The communications team created a flyer with eviction prevention information, which was sent to 49,000 IHSS clients and providers in English, Spanish and Chinese. Renters are now responsible for paying 100% of past-due rent. However, there is funding available for individuals who meet specific criteria. In all cases, the landlord must apply for the California COVID-19 rent relief program before they can proceed with an eviction lawsuit against the renter. San Franciscans needing rental assistance can call (833) 687-0967 or apply online at [www.housingiskey.com](http://www.housingiskey.com). The DAS Integrated Intake hotline can provide information: (415) 355-6700.

Housing & homelessness update: DAS continues to support the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (“HSH”) with rehousing people currently residing in the shelter-in-place (“SIP”) hotels. DAS is tailoring the IHSS and APS programs to better assist these formerly homeless individuals. APS is currently in the planning stages of Phase 2 of the state’s Home Safe Program. DAS plans to utilize the state funds in partnership with HSH and the Department of Public Health (“DPH”) to coordinate comprehensive long-term care plans for individuals residing in permanent supportive housing units who need to transition to a higher level of care

due to cognitive impairment or serious mental illness. Final details of this plan are pending notification from the state regarding local allocation of funds.

Virtual event hosted by the Long Term Care Coordinating Council in support of the Master Plan for Aging will occur on October 26 from 1pm-3pm. The City is adopting a zero tolerance for homelessness among older adults and people with disabilities and prioritizing services that help prevent homelessness within these populations. This forum will include a panel discussion of these issues.

DAS has launched the Dignity Fund Needs Assessment process, which will last throughout this fiscal year. This process is conducted every four years to identify gaps and needs in services. The allocation plan based on the findings from this process will be implemented at the beginning of the next fiscal year and will guide funding for the following three fiscal years. DAS has already met to discuss the process with the Dignity Fund Oversight and Advisory Committee. DAS staff and community stakeholders are now conducting key informant interviews. They will be meeting with the service provider working group. [We are] in the process of scheduling focus groups and town hall meetings.

COVID-19 vaccine update: The State's Department of Public Health recently expanded the vaccine mandate to include individuals who work in a variety of healthcare settings, including all facilities that are licensed by the California Department of Social Services ("CDSS"). This includes residential care facilities for the elderly and adult residential facilities. All in-home direct care services workers are required to be vaccinated, which includes all IHSS workers. However, DAS is not responsible for the enforcement of the mandate as [we] are not the employer of IHSS workers. Also included in the vaccine mandate expansion is hospice workers. DPH is encouraging people wanting a booster to go through their health system or retail pharmacy, or by finding an appointment on the sfgov website. Larger health systems are offering boosters by appointment. Neighborhood vaccination sites are beginning to set up appointments and will revisit clients who are homebound. DAS is working with the vaccination branch on popup sites for certain populations such as individuals with visual impairments and those with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

DAS and HSA are 'returning to the office' on November 1, which is the return to work date for all City employees and the deadline for all City workers to be vaccinated with only a few exceptions.

#### EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Executive Director Dearman and the DAS Commission honored Ippei aka Yukihiro Yasuda from the DAS Benefits and Resource Hub Integrated Intake Unit, thanking him for his hard work and dedication. President Knutzen was impressed with Mr. Yasuda's work ethic and contributions, and wanted to make sure Mr. Yasuda remembers to eat lunch as he often works on his volunteer endeavors during his lunchbreak.

## ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORT/Diane Lawrence

Advisory Council President's Report to the Commission on Disability and Aging Services on October 6, 2021.

Diane started her report with a compliment, stating that the hub phone number is a wonderful resource to pass along to fellow San Franciscans, and she thanked DAS.

### **Key Areas:**

**This report covers the Advisory Council's meeting on September 15 and a special meeting on September 27.**

- During the September 15 meeting, Cathy DeLuca with the Community Living Campaign was a guest.
1. Regarding **membership**, the Council continues to work on filling the vacancies. Two Supervisors are working with members of their communities to find replacements. Executive Director Dearman is writing a cover letter to be sent to those from whom we need to hear back.
  2. No **Dignity Fund** updates.
  3. In July, the State of California Third District Court of Appeals ruled that a state statute requiring nursing home staff to use the correct pronouns for trans and nonbinary patients is a freedom of speech violation. This was a key provision of the **LGBTQ Long-Term Care Facility Residents' Bill of Rights**. The Court upheld the provision in the law that requires nursing homes to place transgender patients in rooms that match their gender identity. The California Commission on Aging and Justice on Aging filed amicus letters along with the National Center for Lesbian Rights.
  4. **Site visits**: the Council continues to explore where to go from here and is determining the comfort level of members going into sites.
  5. **Hubs & spokes process**: Dr. Marcy Adelman with the California Commission on Aging and Annie Chung, Executive Director of Self-Help for the Elderly, cohosted a Bay Area & Central Coast town hall on September 14. A Los Angeles County town hall on hubs and spokes is coming up. The DAS Benefits and Resource Hub is a model for these town hall discussions; the goal is that by December of this year [they will be] a model for the Area Agency on Aging and there will be a virtual briefing to share the findings and next steps (the date is to be determined).
  6. **Senior homelessness**: The ad hoc committee on senior homelessness presented a report at both the August and September Council meetings and then the September 27 meeting was to finalize the Council's approval and the plan to move forward. Each Commissioner received a copy of the report. A variety of agencies were interviewed. Due to pandemic, it was difficult

to schedule an interview with DAS staff. The Coalition on Homelessness Report provided survey results that were recalculated in order to look at, specifically, seniors and the disabled (residents 60 years of age and older). African Americans represented about 57% of the respondents among the 60 and older group as opposed to 38% of the respondents in the larger survey. LGBTQ are underrepresented. There was a question of where the last residence was before becoming homeless and 25% of those 60 and older reported that it was a single room occupancy (SRO) unit. 81% of senior homeless stayed in traditional shelters and 14% in navigation centers. Some of the top needs include case management. Top service needs include mental health treatment, case management, anger management and substance abuse; serious mental illness is at about 8% of this 60 years and older group whereas it is around 3% in the general population. Physical disability including mobility issues and chronic pain were reported among the older, unhoused adults compared to younger, unhoused adults. The team reached out to 17 agencies.

Some of the key findings are:

- Services are scattered and not coordinated within the shelter navigation centers and shelter-in-place hotels.
- Shelter residents face a variety of challenges such as dementia, urinary and constipation issues.
- Navigation centers are not designed to accommodate disabilities (i.e., ramps, beds).
  - Also, navigation center residents need to be out early, sometimes looking for employment; there may need to be some flexibility with older citizens.
- There is a need for training on how to deal with mental health issues.
- The group endorsed the healthy aging model that is provided by Episcopal Community Services; this model could be applied to various groups.
- When admitted into shelters, clients should undergo a comprehensive needs assessment process.
- The availability of increased long-term ongoing rent subsidies for seniors and persons with disabilities is essential.
- Shelter clients should receive orientation sessions on case management and how to report.
- We need to look at why seniors are moving out of SROs and utilizing shelters over navigation centers.
- Use the HSH adult coordinated entry personnel at the 2 Gough resource hub.
- Provide greater access to assisted living facilities, skilled nursing and hospice.
- Create a cadre of universal case managers who could act as a team and work across

departments.

- Develop programs such as AA/NA to address some of the behavioral needs.
- Provide exclusive transportation.

The report was sent to DAS Commissioners and Executive Director of HSH Shireen McSpadden. There is a plan in place to distribute the report further in a couple of weeks.

**Next Advisory Council meeting:** Wednesday, October 20, 2021.

No public comment.

#### JOINT LEGISLATIVE REPORT/Diane Lawrence

Joint Legislative Report to the Commission on Disability and Aging Services on October 6, 2021.

The governor has until October 10 to sign bills. Many of the expired bills will return next year. Ms. Lawrence will provide an update in the final report at the November Commission meeting.

A number of bills have gone to ‘engrossing and enrolling,’ a process by which an individual unit in each house responsible for proofreading and amending the measure so that they match if there were two versions (one from the Assembly and one from the Senate) is then sent to the governor for consideration. Engrossed and enrolled bills: (1) advanced services for deaf and disabled telecommunication programs, allowing sur charges to continue for 10 years; (2) paid family leave weekly benefit amount would revise the formula for periods of disability between January 1, 2023 to January 1, 2025, then it recalculates a new formula in 2025; (3) AB279 (immediate care facilities), which prohibits until mid-2022 an independent care facility or skilled nursing facility from terminating or making significant quality of care changes to its services and implements a 90-day notification requirement when the state is in a period of emergency; (4) AB323 (long-term care health facilities) defines a class violation for not following the law; (5) AB580 (emergency services) looks at vulnerable populations and requires counties to develop and revise emergency plans to address the issues identified by the Office of Emergency Services (“OES”) in their review of the county and then requires the county to send a copy of its plan to OES before March 1, 2022; (6) AB636 (financial abuse of elder or dependent adults) allows information relevant to the incident of elder or dependent adult abuse to be given to a federal law enforcement agency, under certain circumstances, for the sole purpose of investigating a financial crime committed against the elder or dependent adult and would authorize the information to be given to a local enforcement agency; and (7) SB48 (Medi-Cal) requires an annual cognitive health assessment and makes the Medi-Cal provider eligible to receive payments for this benefit only if they comply with certain requirements (including completing training). Ms. Lawrence expects that some bills sent to the inactive file will come back next year. It will be another busy season in January.

## CASE REPORT/Daniel Gallagher

CASE Report to the Commission on Disability and Aging Services on October 6, 2021.

### CASE Study Writing Project

- Judy Goddess, the Program Coordinator for the Project, interviewed all of the agencies and started the writing of their innovative efforts for the last year and a half to provide services virtually and in person. Mr. Gallagher hopes to have this project finalized by the end of November/early December.
- CASE programming in September included a presentation on HIV and aging by Vincent Crisostomo, Director of Aging Services, SF AIDS Foundation and Jesus Guillen, Director of the HIV Long Term Survivors International Network group. It was a great presentation that highlighted what long time survivors of HIV and AIDS are currently facing. Some of the key issues facing this population as they age in San Francisco include: housing, isolation, and behavioral healthcare.
- The CASE meeting at 3pm on October 18 will include a training on Ableism presented by members of the Senior and Disability Action organization.
- The November meeting will include a presentation from SF Reserve on employee retention and recruitment during COVID, which is an emerging need.
- The service provider working group is meeting with resource development associates (RDA) on October 27 to begin the needs assessment process through the lens of the service provider working group. These are the emerging needs identified thus far:
  - Challenges of the hybrid work environment for both staff and participants
  - Hybrid programming is essential as we move forward through the next year
  - Staffing challenges:
    - Agencies need help with recruitment
    - Vaccines requirements have impacted staffing levels as employees choose to leave rather than meet the requirements
  - Agencies need support with remote learning and telehealth (part of the hybrid model of providing services)
  - The service delivery suspension and the challenges to plan for the future are ongoing issues for many agencies as we try to navigate the pandemic to meet essential needs that can't be met via telehealth
  - Transportation is an emerging need; there is a lack of capacity for transportation right now for seniors and adults with disabilities
  - Social isolation was an issue prior to pandemic and has increased since the pandemic; it is a strong driver of people's health in San Francisco
  - Behavioral health issues are on the rise
  - Digital divide and lack of resources
  - The need for more case management
  - The need for housing and to pay attention to evictions for seniors and adults with disabilities
- Mr. Gallagher and his co-chair of CASE, Fiona, are holding interviews on October 8 to inform on these efforts and approach the needs assessment process

## GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

- A. Francisco Da Costa: “Have you read the Brown Act? In this difficult world, if you want us to participate, especially in this digital world, [sic] having a virtual meeting. What use is it to have agenda items when the public at large cannot give their feedback. I participate in many virtual meetings, and each agenda item has public comment. You want us to hear about many things; the reports are very detailed; I’m sure many of the elderly participants would want to ask questions and you don’t allow that. You might as well have your virtual meetings by yourself. You have 10 agenda items, only on two is the public allowed to comment. There is something wrong with this. You can watch other virtual meetings and find out if what I said is factual. I admire presenters who are giving detailed reports but we should also have on the left side timelines and goals of those things that are suggested, how they’re executed, in other words, action. What is happening is that... many seniors are living in recreational vehicles, living in despicable conditions and all this and more can be brought to your attention if you allow for public comment after each agenda item.”
- B. Cathy DeLuca with the Community Living Campaign, “The Long Term Care Coordinating Council is hosting an event addressing how to end homelessness among seniors and people with disabilities in San Francisco with Executive Director Dearman as a panelist along with HSH Executive Director McSpadden. Beth Stokes from Episcopal Community Services of San Francisco and Yolanda Harris, Commissioner with the San Francisco Housing Authority, will discuss the issues together. We are pleased that Dr. Margot Kushel, Director of the Benioff Homelessness and Housing Initiative, will speak about what she knows and the research she and her team have done to give us that bigger picture of what’s really going on with older adults and adults with disabilities who are housing insecure, homeless or even formerly homeless in San Francisco. I hope you will join us at this great event. It will be a great chance for the Commission to continue this conversation that the Advisory Council is starting on their wonderful report on this issue. It feels like things are coming together with everyone working on this at the same time so I hope you will join us on October 26 from 1pm – 3pm. For more information or just to RSVP you can go to [bit.ly/sfmasterplanforaging](http://bit.ly/sfmasterplanforaging) or you can call me at (415) 638-9183. Thank you for all you do in all parts of your life including this Commission and I hope you’ll join us for this conversation. Thank you so much.”

#### OLD BUSINESS

- A. None.

#### APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

A motion to approve.



The motion was unanimously approved.

Absent: Commissioner Michelle Carrington

## NEW BUSINESS

**Review of the Department's FY2021-2022 Action Plan** (Presented by Kelly Dearman and Vellore Adithi.)

### PRESENTATION ONLY

Executive Director Kelly Dearman presented an overview of two recently published annual strategic reports: (1) the fiscal year 2021-2022 action plan, which identifies specific actions DAS will complete this year in support of the overarching strategic goals and (2) the fiscal year 2020-2021 year in review, which highlights achievements from last year. Today's presentation focused on the action plan for fiscal year 2021-2022 ("FY21-22").

The strategic plan for FY21-22 comprises five main goals:

1. Maintain a robust network of community services for older adults and adult with disabilities
  - a. Pursue new services and delivery models with the full spectrum of care needs: Build capacity and increase visibility and traffic to County Veterans Service Office outstations operating in partnership with community-based partners
2. Protect older people and adults with disabilities from abuse, neglect and financial exploitation
  - a. Work with government and community partners to enhance the City's systems -level response to abuse, dementia and other destabilizing factors and high risk populations: launch pilot to build emergency preparedness capacity within community-based organizations (2020 City Climate Hazard and Resilience Plan recommendation 5.08)
3. Provide and support consumer-centered programs to best address client needs
  - a. Streamline access to resources and advance service integration across Department and community to promote timely access of relevant services: procure a vendor to build a dynamic online resource directory for aging and disability resources, drawing on prior year's research into best practices and design (target launch in FY 2022-23)
4. Expand planning and evaluation efforts to ensure best use of resources and maximize client outcomes
  - a. Facilitate planning processes and implementation of efforts to promote inclusion of older people and adults with disabilities within the broader city community: facilitate citywide reporting related to affordable housing for older adults and people with disabilities in alignment with new local legislation and in partnership with other City agencies

5. Support and develop an engaged professional workforce that is prepared to work with older people and adults with disabilities
  - a. Collaborate with education, training and workforce programs locally and regionally to address the shortage of adequately trained and engaged professionals in the fields of aging and disability: support the development of career pathways for IHSS caregivers including the CAN 'earn and learn' certification program that Homebridge is piloting with IHSS Contract Mode home care providers

Commissioner Bittner commented about emergency preparedness, that it is something she is personally worried about. While she has good support systems, what happens if she is out and about during an emergency or home alone. She really likes the idea of an online resource. Would there be an email address or phone number if someone needs more assistance?

Executive Director Dearman replied that DAS will be working with the Mayor's Office on Disability with the emergency preparedness plan. Executive Director Dearman will let them know that Commissioner Bittner would like to participate at some level. In terms of the resource directory, it will be an online resource directory and there will always be a phone number that one can call.

Commissioner Jung thanked Executive Director Dearman and her staff for the excellent work they continue to do. She expressed her appreciation for the action plan, stating that it helps her focus the work of DAS. With so many committees, groups, CBOs, contracts, etc., the action plan "pulls it all together... the work that we do for this important community of older adults and adults with disabilities to ensure that there is good planning and ensures that we are efficient and maximize our resources." Commissioner Jung appreciates the structure of the five goals and agrees with them. She is in complete agreement with the importance of the outstations and getting the information out to the right people. Too often clients are not aware of what is available to them. Getting the services out there is spot on. With regards to disaster planning, "making sure we are on the ground, working directly for those individuals and families impacted by disasters is so important. Online resources are so important... Affordable housing is really important, especially for older adults and people with disabilities to ensure they receive the help they need. Supporting our staff is incredibly important. We need to ensure employees get the support and training they need. Great work, and the action plan is right on."

Executive Director Dearman thanked the Commissioner for her feedback and added that one of her visions is about outreach and the action plan speaks to how DAS is going to reach people where they are.

**CLF 6 Month Report** (Presented by Fanny Lapitan.)

PRESENTATION ONLY

Fanny Lapitan, Program Manager for the Office of Community Partnerships, presented the community living six-month report, which covers January through June 2021.

The Community Living Fund (“CLF”) was created in 2006 to support aging in place and provide community placement alternatives for people who would otherwise require care within an institution. The fund serves adult San Francisco residents with incomes up to 300% of federal poverty level. Participants must be willing and able to live in the community with appropriate supports and are in imminent risk of institutionalization.

The target population is individuals ready for discharge from Laguna Honda Hospital, San Francisco General and other San Francisco facilities. For individuals who are already in imminent risk of institutional placement but with the appropriate supports can remain in the community. CLF uses a two-pronged approach to provide home- and community-based services. CLF provides coordinated case management. The Institute on Aging (“IOA”) is currently the contracted service provider for this program. A section of the San Francisco Administrative Code requires that DAS reports the level of service provided by CLF as well as the incurred costs every six months. All Commissioners received this report in advance of today’s meeting.

CLF received 68 new referrals and served a total of 281 clients during this six-month recording period. Of those served, 70% received intensive case management. 104 clients received rental subsidies through the housing program that is administered by our community partner, Brilliant Corners. 66% of referred clients were older adults aged 60 and up; 34% were adults age 89-59 with disabilities. Trends in the ethnic profile of new referrals remain generally consistent with previous 6-month periods: white clients comprise 35% of new referrals while 26% are African American, 18% are Latinx and 11% are Asian/Pacific Islander. 72% of newly referred clients identify as heterosexual and 9% identify as LGBTQ. The most commonly requested service is case management with 54% of clients enrolled. In-home support is 47% and housing related services are about 40%.

Last year, due to the pandemic and the shelter-in-place order, CLF modified its program to provide telephonic and virtual engagement with clients for their care coordination and other support. CLF implemented an essential home visit protocol to allow for in person visits as of April 2021. Since June of 2021, the program has returned to majority face-to-face visits and related services.

Staff were trained on safety precautions and provided with personal equipment to ensure safety when meeting in person. The program continues to monitor any changes in the guidelines from the Department of Public Health (“DPH”) related to vaccinations, equipment and other protections for COVID.

CLF continues to support the DAS Public Guardian (“PG”) Office through the PG Housing Fund, which provides individuals with housing subsidies and assistance with moving-related costs. During the last six months, CLF supported six participants with board and care.

Since March of 2020, CLF has been collaborating with IHSS, APS, Homebridge and HSH to assist individuals who were discharged from Laguna Honda and San Francisco General and

placed in a Project Roomkey or other shelter-in-place (“SIP”) site. The CLF program’s rapid transitions team uses a modified fast track process to assess and enroll these individuals in the program and helps them with the transition to stability in the hotel. To date, CLF has served 49 participants.

President Knutzen noticed a slight drop in participants. Is it pandemic related or other reasons [the Commission] should be aware of?

Ms. Lapitan responded that indeed the pandemic is a cause, along with other factors. Referrals to CLF come through skilled nursing facilities and hospitals, which experienced delays in discharges because of quarantine procedures at Laguna Honda. Also, CLF has struggled to find appropriate housing in the community for referrals. Many referrals have disability and mobility issues; most clients use wheelchairs so it has been difficult to find ADA units.

President Knutzen thanked Ms. Lapitan and added, “that explanation helps [the Commission] understand why we are setting priorities around that type of housing in other categories.”

### **Presentation of the DAS FY 21/22 Schedule for Requests for Proposals and Contract Renewals** (Presented by Tara Alvarez and Sara Hofverberg.)

#### **PRESENTATION ONLY**

Sara Hofverberg presented an overview of the four-year Dignity Fund cycle calendar, comprised of three cycles (A, B and C). DAS is currently in cycle C. She then addressed the list of requests for proposals (“RFP”) slated for fiscal year 2021-2022 for either new programs or existing programs requiring renewal:

1. Long term housing subsidies (new program)
2. LGBTQ+ community social isolation and health (new program)
  - a. Allows for a new telehealth program to provide no-cost mental health treatment to LGBTQ+ older adults and adults with disabilities, along with a pilot program to provide internet access and devices to approximately 500 clients. Funding addresses critically needed mental health services around depression and anxiety as a result of the pandemic and the digital divide.
3. Access and empowerment services (new program)
4. Hazard and climate resilience (new program)
5. Nutrition (new program)
  - a. DAS will support new and nontraditional models of service to provide nutritional support in the community for older adults and people with disabilities, with an emphasis on choice and cultural relevancy in Districts with fewer options, such as District 11.
6. Disability Community Cultural Center (“CCC”) (new program)
  - a. In partnership with the Mayor’s Office on Disability, DAS will open a CCC at The Kelsey housing site for the Civic Center area. It will provide virtual and in-person community service programming, and educational, artistic and social networking opportunities with a focus on serving individuals with disabilities and their allies in the City.

7. Technology and connections at home (existing program)
  - a. Provides long-term access to technology devices, technology instruction and health coaching
  - b. Includes a training program with classes twice a week, one-to-one health coaching, supplemental training and technical support
8. Nutrition and supportive services for healthy outcomes (existing program)
9. Legal services program for health-related law (existing program)
10. Housing resource list (existing program)
11. Life planning legal service program for LGBT older adults and adults with disabilities (existing program)
12. Kinship family caregiver support services (existing program)
13. Respite care (existing program)
14. LGBTQ focused community services at an ADHC (existing program)
15. Community services programming for veterans (existing program)
16. Supportive services and service connection for veterans (existing program)
17. High risk, self-neglect multi-disciplinary team (existing program)

Tara Alvarez presented the only renewal RFP for an emergency on-call IHSS program, along with six sole-source grants:

1. DAS food assistance program
2. Registration enrollment video appointment (REVA)
3. DeVero-electronic health record system
4. Independent provider (IP) mode IHSS
5. Legal assistance for veterans with mental health claims
6. Adult day health care – enhanced care coordination

Commissioner Jung requested a copy of the presentation.

Commissioner Lum commented that when the Commission receives such a comprehensive report, it would be helpful to know the purpose of the program, the estimated cost of the program, and the number of people to benefit from each program so that [Commissioners] can get a better idea of the total assessments.

In response, Ms. Hofverberg stated that at this stage, this presentation reveals the general plan for the year. Contracts may or may not yet have a certain dollar amount in mind/available. The RFP requires that potential contractors provide their idea of an appropriate budget and number of people served for the program. Any budget details provided today would probably be significantly inaccurate by the time the grant request is brought to Commission.

**Review of the FY21-22 California Department of Aging Area Plan Contract AP-2122-06, Amendment 1.** (Presented by Mike Zaugg.)  
PRESENTATION ONLY

Mike Zaugg, Program Director for the Office of Community Partnerships, provided a follow-up to last month's presentation regarding the Area Plan contract. Since last month when there was an issue with an incorrect dollar amount, Mr. Zaugg reports that DAS is able to amend the contract periodically throughout the year to add in additional dollars with amendment one. The nutritional congregate meals amount has been corrected and additional dollars have been added through new state funding initiatives to support these programs. Last month, Mr. Zaugg revealed that the congregate meals program had a year-over-year deficit of \$467,000, which was significant. Through the amendment, the calculation has been corrected and gives us back just over \$350,000. Therefore, we show a year-over-year decline of \$100,000 in decreased funding to the congregate meal program area. For the moment, we are not worried. We know that additional inbound state and federal funding will be tied to this program.

DAS will receive a significant increase in funding of about \$700,000 for home delivery meals. The state has provided an additional \$100,000 for every Area Agency on Aging ("AAA") in the state to help localities offset administration costs. The amendment overall brought in just over \$1 million in additional funding, which DAS will utilize in supporting congregate meals and expand capacity for home delivered meals.

ITEMS A through C ARE ACTION ITEMS AND REQUIRE A VOTE BY THE COMMISSION.

- A. Review and approval of the California Department of Aging – Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers (MIPPA) Contract MI-2122-06 in the amount of \$100,321 for Self-Help for the Elderly, with a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$110,353, associated budget, and all subsequent amendments. (Melissa McGee presented the item).

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

A motion to approve.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Absent: Commissioner Michelle Carrington

- B. Requesting authorization to modify the existing grant agreements with multiple providers for the provision of community services to older adults and adults with disabilities; during the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023; in the amount of \$1,529,505, plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$10,562,342. (Lauren McCasland presented the item).

Upon completion of the presentation, President Knutzen added that she was very pleased to hear that DAS would be able to fund these very important programs. She knew it got cut and the community was upset.

Vice President Spears asked what District is not covered by these programs, to which Ms. McCasland replied she did not have that data at that time and would need to look it up and provide it at a later time.

Commissioner Bittner then asked if the program is for only older adults or also for younger people with disabilities, to which Ms. McCasland replied that all adults with disabilities are covered, along with older adults, and it includes higher learning classes as well.

Commissioner Jung reminded President Knutzen that she needs to recuse herself due to a potential conflict of interest with one of the grantees, to which President Knutzen thanked Commissioner Jung for the reminder and recognized the recusal.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

A motion to approve.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Absent: Commissioner Michelle Carrington

Recused: Commissioner Jung

- C. Requesting authorization to modify the existing grant agreements with multiple providers for the provision of the Village and Community Connector Model; for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023; in the additional amount of \$283,316 plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$3,399,102. (Lauren McCasland presented the item.)

Commissioner Jung asked a similar question posed by Commissioner Spears in the previous motion: under the Community Connector program, it is providing services to which neighborhoods in San Francisco, to which Ms. McCasland responded the services may be provided in Districts 11, 7, 5 and 4, and the neighborhoods near Alta Loma Park, Sunnyside, Midtown Terrace, Inner Sunset, Outer Sunset, Excelsior and Crocker Amazon.

President Knutzen asked if the Mon Ami technology is revealing any improvement connecting volunteers to services? Ms. McCasland stated that the technology is still new so there is not a lot of data, though anecdotally volunteers are saying that the technology is very helpful and it has been really helpful for them to connect with volunteers more and provide on feedback about any participants as the volunteers are working with them. Helpful data is being collected through the application. The app collects data about participants. It helps agencies collect data that is required by law and so they know more about their participants.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Jacqueline Zimmer Jones, Executive Director of NEXT Village San Francisco, "...thank you for your support. [I'd like to provide] on the ground examples of what we do. We have been working weekly with Mon Ami to make that platform as responsive as we need it to be and to provide us with the capacity to better report data to the City/DAS. We are very grateful for it... it's the best one we've used. I want to tell you about a member who came to us during COVID. We ran a program in partnership with Food Runners and we delivered almost 5,000 meals during a 14-month period to seniors who were playing it safe and staying home during the pandemic. We were so grateful to be able to do that. We have one member we met during that time and she has about eight different volunteers helping her out. We just installed a lockbox on the back of her building so that volunteers can get in and out of her building. She has rheumatoid arthritis, she can't get down to the front door. There is no building elevator. If she could get to the front door, it's too heavy for her to open. It's a North Beach neighborhood building so to have people come in and help her, it is very difficult for her to open the door so we put a lockbox in. We signed her up for Meals on Wheels and arrange for people to go over and take her garbage out every other day so that the packaging doesn't build up in her home and attract rodents. We take her laundry somewhere to have it done because there's no laundry facility in her building. We got her a new phone because of the arthritis in her hands, she is unable to use the phone she had. We have a number of friendly callers and visitors going to her home. She is hoarding a lot of materials in her home and is at risk of being evicted so we have been steadily working with her these past 7-8 months to help move things from her home so there is a clear path for people to get in and out. So this is an example of what a village can do for people. All the volunteers who help her live nearby. Last week, she ran out of toilet paper and we were able to find someone at the last moment to run over to her home and hang toilet paper on her door. This is just an example of some of the services we are providing for people beyond technology help. We host about 500 social, cultural and educational events each year on Zoom and in person. More than any other village in the country. We just launched a podcast called "Not Born Yesterday" and we hope you will check it out."

A motion to approve.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Absent: Commissioner Michelle Carrington

### Announcements

Vice President Spears noted that the Governor yesterday appointed Kimberly McCoy Wade as his Senior Advisor on Aging, Disability and Alzheimer's. She previously held the position of Director of the California Department of Aging. This is a new position the Governor has created. Taking her place at the CA Department of Aging is Susan DeMarois who was Director of Public



Policy and Advocacy for the Alzheimer's Association with former First Lady Maria Shriver. The reason this is important is that having someone move from the Department of Aging to a new position with the Governor can assist us with the Master Plan for Aging.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned by President Knutzen.