

Long Term Care News and Views

Sharing Information about Home and Community-Based Long Term Care Services

Planning for Elders in the Central City* Volume 14, Issue 4* April 2009

THE \$10 BILLION QUESTION

If the California Dept. of Finance does not certify that the state get \$10 billion dollars from the federal stimulus package, then a new round of cuts will ensue. These include:

- Reducing SSI/SSP grants by additional 2.3%. Individual recipients would lose \$20/month; couples would lose \$43/month.
- Eliminating certain Medi-Cal optional benefits (adult dental, optometric, incontinence creams & washes, psychology, podiatry) and reduce reimbursement rates for public hospitals by 10%.
- Reducing CalWORKs grants by 4%. (A family of 3 in SF would lose about \$30/month.)
- Reducing wages of IHSS workers and require some IHSS recipients to pay a larger share of cost.

Current estimates vary from \$8 billion (Dept of Finance) to 50 billion (California Budget Project). One thing is certain: no one seems to know how much the state will get.

SAN FRANCISCO BUDGET

Most departments have submitted their proposed budgets to the Mayor and he is now considering whether to accept the proposals. It is important that we continue to remind the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors that seniors and people with disabilities must be a priority.

The proposed cuts to city and state budgets will be devastating for vulnerable individuals, and the decision-makers will have to make hard choices.

The revenue measures on the ballot on May 19, intended to help balance the state budget, will have implications for health and human services if passed. Our advocacy will make a difference in the outcome! Plan to attend hearings and other events to let the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors know what you think! Speak up!

ANNOUNCEMENT: What is happening to San Francisco Services?

Billions for Banks, but ...
Clinics/Parks/Libraries/Hospitals/Streets get huge cuts! What about our communities????

BAM! (Big A March!)
Thurs., Mar. 26, 5:15 p.m.
Hallidie Plaza (Powell St. BART)
March to City Hall**

*Join the fight for services!
Contact HAT for more info*

**Did you know you can contribute
to Planning for Elders on-line?**

Visit our website:

www.planningforelders.org

**Next IHSS- Health Task Force
Thursday May 7
10:30 – 12:00
1453 Mission #520**

Inside this Issue:

Senior Spotlight: Adoracion Jimenez	Pg 2
Special Ballot	Pg 3
Special Ballot continued	Pg 4
HAT	Pg 5
Senior Survival School	Pg 6
The Two Dimensions of IHSS	Pg 7
IHSS continued	Pg.8
Free Tax Return Preparation	Pg.8
Calendar	Pg 9

Senior Spotlight: Adoracion Jimenez



This month we feature the amazing Ms. Adoracion Yulo Jimenez, or Nanay Dorie as she is known by many in the community. She was born in the Philippines on May 19, 1931 in Sorsogon (in the Bicol Region) where she lived until grade three. Then her family moved to Manila, where she grew up. She taught elementary and high school, then completed her MA while teaching high school. Eventually she taught home economics, Filipino and English language and literature at De La Salle University in Manila. She wrote four books that are used to teach high school science, home economics, college literature and English. Dorie also taught home economics to single mothers and fathers in the Philippines. She speaks Tagalog, English and some Spanish and Chinese.

Ms. Jimenez has six children and 19 grandchildren. One son lives in Daly City, one in Michigan and all the others live in the Philippines, where she visits 2 or 3 times a year. Her husband passed away many years ago.

She came to San Francisco in 1988 with her mother and took a job as a nanny for a wealthy dentist's children. She taught the children reading, language, math, music, singing, dancing and proper manners. She was very well liked as a nanny. One day the dentist came home surprised because a patient of his was a student of Dorie's back at De La Salle University. "Why didn't you tell me?" She laughed and told him, "Because you wouldn't hire me!"

Eventually she taught Filipino Literature at SF City College, for several years. Now she is an active volunteer with Canon Kip senior center, Filipino American Resource Center, Saint Francis of Assisi Senior Community, the Food Bank, and was a prominent member of the Commission on Aging for many years. Dorie is part of the traditional Filipino dance group, the Sampaguita Dancers, for whom she sews all costumes they wear. She also taught English to Vietnamese immigrant women in the Tenderloin.

Dorie is an inspirational person. She is always smiling, laughing and brings a genuinely kind perspective to our community despite the fact that she is often in severe pain. "If I wasn't laughing then I would be crying, and it's more fun to laugh!" she says. She makes others laugh and smile too. When asked about advice on how to have a good life she says it's about realizing that money is not all that important, it's better to keep a positive attitude, be patient, helpful, don't eat or drink too much, don't smoke, speak your mind, stay active, prepare for the future, and watch others in order to learn from them. Dorie is also advocates for people to learn new languages. "Language is the capital of life," she says, "learn as much as you can."

Ms. Jimenez has an infectious laugh. It is impossible to talk to her for any length of time and not be cheered up. She attributes this happy-go-lucky outlook to some of the close calls with death she has faced. She had three serious sicknesses and once could not eat solid food for a year, then in 2005 she fell down a flight of stairs but sustained no serious injury. She fully recovered from all these conditions and now does as much as she can to help people in need. She does not want people to take care of her, she wants to take care of others.

She stays actively involved in many community activities and is an inspiring person to everyone who comes in contact with her.

We would like to honor Ms. Adoracion Jimenez with this senior spotlight.

Special Election

The Department of Elections Prepares for May 19 Special Election

On Friday, February 20, 2009, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed Senate Bill 19 calling for a special statewide election to be held on May 19. The ballot for the upcoming election will include six statewide measures related to California's budget. The Secretary of State will send official information on the measures in April. Some precincts will be consolidated and residents of those precincts will receive a postcard notice prior to the election, which will include the location of their new polling place as well as a vote-by-mail ballot application if they prefer to vote by mail. Voters can still find the printed address for their polling place along with a vote-by-mail ballot application on the back cover of their Voter Information Pamphlet, which is mailed to every voter before every election. Voters will also have the option of using the Department's online polling place lookup tool at sfelections.org, or can call the Department for the location of their polling place at (415) 554-4375.

May 19 Election Overview:

Everyone remember to vote! Here is an overview of the six propositions:

1A Stabilizes State Budget. Reforms California Budget Process.

Limits State Spending. Increases "Rainy Day" Budget Stabilization Fund.

This measure would make major changes to the way in which the state sets aside money in one of its "rainy day" reserve accounts and how this money is spent. As a result, Proposition 1A could have significant impacts on the state's budgeting practices in the future. The measure would tend to increase the amount of money set aside in the state's rainy day account by increasing how much money is put into this account and restricting the withdrawal of these funds. If this measure is approved, several tax increases passed as part of the February 2009 budget package would be extended by one to two years. State tax revenues would increase by about \$16 billion from 2010-11 through 2012 13.

Summary: Combines a 4-year tax hike of about \$16 billion with a state spending cap

1B Education Funding. Payment Plan.

Amends the State Constitution as it relates to Proposition 98, providing "supplemental education" payments in place of recent "maintenance factor" payments. Also provides greater discretion to the Legislature and Governor regarding how the payments would be distributed. **Summary: Modification of [California Proposition 98 \(1998\)](#) to free up money for state's [budget overruns](#).**

continued on pg. 4

Special Election (cont.)

1C Lottery Modernization Act.

This measure is one of the major components of the plan approved by the Legislature and the Governor in February 2009 to balance the state budget. The measure makes major changes to the 1984 voter initiative that created the California Lottery. These changes could increase lottery ticket sales and allow the state to borrow \$5 billion in the 2009-10 fiscal year from future lottery profits. In addition to borrowing this \$5 billion, the state also could borrow more from lottery profits in future years. Under the measure, lottery profits now dedicated to schools and colleges would be used to pay back the borrowing. The measure would increase state payments to education from the state General Fund to make up for the loss of these lottery payments. **Summary: Sell rights to future lottery proceeds as a way of raising some cash now for state budget.**

1D Protects Children's Services Funding. Helps Balance State Budget.

This measure would temporarily redirect a significant portion of Proposition 10 (First 5 program) funds to achieve budgetary savings and would make permanent changes to state and local First 5 commission operations. **Summary: Asks voters to approve taking money from [Prop 10 in 1998](#) for purposes not allowed in that 1998 vote.**

1E Ensures Funding for Children's Mental Health Services. Helps Balance State Budget.

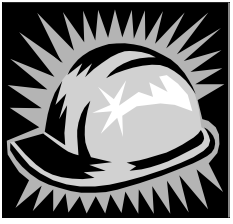
Proposition 63 provides state funding for certain new or expanded mental health programs through a personal income tax surcharge of 1 percent on the portion of a taxpayer's taxable income in excess of \$1 million. This measure allows for the temporary redirection of some Proposition 63 funds—specifically, \$226.7 million in 2009–10, and between \$226.7 million and \$234 million in 2010–11. In effect, these Proposition 63 revenues would be used to offset state costs that would otherwise be borne by the General Fund, thereby achieving savings to help address the state's current budgetary problem. **Summary: Asks voters to take money from [Prop 63](#) for purposes not allowed in that 2004 vote.**

1F Elected Officials' Salaries. Prevents Pay Increases During Budget Deficit Years.

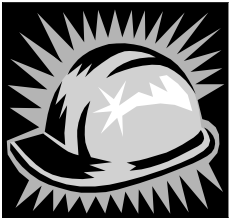
This proposition amends the Constitution to prevent the California Citizens Compensation Commission from approving increases in the annual salary of elected state officials in certain cases when the state General Fund is expected to end the year with a deficit.

Proposition 13 (SCA 4) Prohibits re-evaluating new construction for property tax purposes when the new construction was undertaken to seismically retrofit an existing building.

This information is from the California Legislative Analysts Office. <http://www.lao.ca.gov/laoapp/>

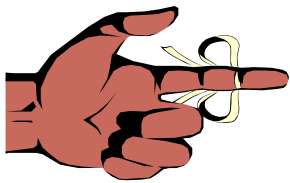


**PLANNING FOR ELDERS ACTIVITIES:
HealthCare Action Team:
March Update**



Its almost Spring so get ready to spring into action with HAT! Lets keep this budget advocacy ball rolling. The April HAT meeting will be at a different location so please remember to come to Bayanihan center NOT THE QUAKER CENTER!!!! This place is close to the office. Don't miss it!

!!!DATE AND LOCATION CHANGE!!



HAT Meeting

Wednesday April 15 12:00-1:30

**Bayanihan Center 1010 Mission St.
(Corner of 6th+ Mission)**

Call James for more information (415) 703-0188 ext 304!

HAT supported the release of the Elder Economic Security Standard Index information at a festive City Hall press conference that was sponsored by the Community Living Campaign. The Elder Index to provides an updated and accurate picture of elders' economic needs as we plan for our growing aging population.

The fabulous HAT players also performed at the Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired and were met with an enthusiastic crowd of people who had their own hospital discharge stories to share. We look forward to working more with them. Thank you Maria Cristina, Vicki, Lenny, Feli and Hene!

HAT would like to salute the group Social Workers in Senior Housing (SWISH) that does amazing work sharing resources and keeping seniors and people with disabilities in the community. Sometimes all it takes is a little supportive

housing to make a big difference. We attended their monthly meeting and look forward to even more collaboration in the future.



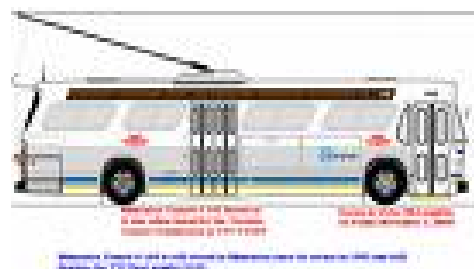
SAVE THE DATE THE SILVER TSUNAMI IS COMING TO SAN FRANCISCO CITY HALL ON TUESDAY MAY 12. THERE WILL BE A FESTIVE ACTION TO PARTICIPATE IN SO PLAN TO BE THERE ON MAY 12! MORE ALERTS TO FOLLOW, BUT REMEMBER: THE TSUNAMI IS COMING! CALL JAMES AT HAT FOR MORE INFORMATION!

The Senior Survival School is off to a great start this year!

On February 24th, we held a special session at the Alexander Residence in the Tenderloin, in collaboration with the Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation. The focus of the workshop was Eviction Prevention in HUD buildings, and, in particular, evictions for “nuisances” like hoarding and cluttering. Victoria Tedder from the Independent Living Resource Center and Sara Shortt from the Housing Rights Committee shared important information about your rights and also, responsibilities as a tenant in an affordable housing unit. The workshop was interpreted into Cantonese.

Thank you to all the participants and volunteers who made this workshop a success!

A new Senior Survival School class session started on Thursday March 19th with the Mission SRO collaborative. The majority of participants were residents of SRO (Single Resident Occupancy) Hotels. On the first day, we talked about how to access transportation services in San Francisco, and what are the rights to the services available. As always, we had a representative from MUNI who answered a lot of people’s questions about problems they have encountered on the buses, in particular. Participants were excited to offer their experiences and learn about what services are there for them as older people and people with disabilities.



Please join us for the rest of the sessions—March 26th, April 2, and April 9th at 9 A.M. at 938 Valencia Street. Call to register.

If you are interested in learning more about Senior Survival School, please call Sarah at (415) 703-0188 x 302.

Two Dimensions of IHSS in San Francisco

Sometimes the difference between the two different kinds of IHSS, or In Home Supportive Service available here in San Francisco is not well understood. In order to clarify this, we have descriptions of the different components of each program.

Description of the San Francisco IHSS Public Authority

The mission of San Francisco's In-Home Supportive Services Public Authority is to cost-effectively provide and promote a service delivery model of consumer-directed in-home support that maximizes the potential of older adults and people with disabilities to live independently and participate in their communities. We work on behalf of and offer services to nearly 38,000 people in the City: about 20,000 IHSS consumers and 18,000 home care workers, including family members. Before the Authority existed, this independent provider workforce (meaning people who work on their own and are not employed by an agency who are called IP's), was very low paid and had virtually no benefits. The Authority's role makes it possible for IP's to get health coverage. Now over 10,000 IP's enroll in the comprehensive health plan that the Authority helped design for them and about 8,000 use our dental insurance. We offer in-house skills training for all IP's.

Fundamental to the Authority's work is the idea that even severely disabled consumers can choose an IP to assist them with household and sometimes intimate tasks. Many people do not understand that most consumers can hire, supervise and fire a worker if a hire does not work out. When the consumer does not have a family member who can work for them or does not know who to hire, they can call the Authority's Central Registry that matches and refers to consumers the names of screened IP's. Registry counselors advise consumers and IP's when questions or problems arise. The Authority has also started a program of Consumer Peer Mentors who can share their experience in living independently with a disability with consumers who need extra support in best using the IP mode or accessing community services. In addition, the Authority's On-Call Program immediately provides an IP when the regular provider for an IHSS consumer is not available or when no one is scheduled to help them at home when they're discharged from the hospital. All these services are factored into the Authority claim rate for a cost currently of about \$16 per hour.

IHSS Consortium Description

In- Home Supportive Services Consortium is a non-profit home care agency who helps low-income, elderly and disabled persons in San Francisco remain living in their homes. We do this by providing assistance with household chores, personal care, shopping, accompaniment to medical appointments and some medical services when ordered by a medical provider. The Consortium hires, trains, supervises and schedules the home care providers that are sent out to serve clients. We also provide case management and intensive supervision to the clients under our care. Clients are referred to us by the Department of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Program under a contract with the city and county of San Francisco. All clients who are served by IHSS Consortium also have a county IHSS worker assigned to them.

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IHSS (continued)

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Differentiation between contract mode IHSS (IHSS Consortium) and between IP mode IHSS

Most IHSS recipients in San Francisco hire and manage their own home care providers- often family members or friends. This is called IP mode (independent provider mode). Other IHSS recipients who are able to supervise their own HCP but do not know anyone who can perform the work can seek assistance from the IHSS Public Authority who operate a registry of qualified workers. This is also considered IP mode (independent provider mode). When an IHSS recipient is too frail, ill, or cognitively impaired to manage their services and supervise a home care provider, they are referred to what's called "contract mode" IHSS which is what IHSS Consortium is. All referrals that come to IHSS Consortium have been evaluated by the DAAS/IHSS program and the IHSS/DAAS Social Worker has decided on which "mode" of IHSS service the consumer requires.

This information brought to you by the IHSS-Health Task force of Planning for Elders.

Last Chance for FREE Tax Help

April 15th is just around the corner!

If your 2008 household income was less than \$45,000, you can get free tax help at more than 160 sites across the Bay Area. IRS-certified tax preparers will help you get the refund you deserve. You could qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit, which could mean a refund of up to \$4,800!

Visit a site near you to learn about other tax credits you may be eligible for, free or low cost bank accounts, and other financial services.

See the back of this flyer for a list of sites still open.

What to bring

- Social Security Card or ITIN numbers
- All W2's, 1099's and other income forms
- Landlord contact information
- A voided check for Direct Deposit
- Last year's tax return (if you have it)
- 2008 Economic Stimulus Payment Amount
- Childcare provider name, address, and tax ID number

To find a site near you CALL 211 www.earnitkeepitsaveit.org

Community Calendar: April 09

Consumer-Oriented Long Term Care Activities

DATE	ACTIVITY	TIME & PLACE	MORE INFO?
Mon—Fri	Computer Open Lab	Call Ahead, 965 Mission Street Suite 550	(415) 703-0188
Wed. April 1	DAAS Commission	9:30 am, City Hall, room 416	LaShaun. Williams 355-3509
Mon. April 13	Coalition of Agencies Serving the Elderly	3 - 5:00 Call contact for location	Patty Clement 452-3500
Wed. April 15	HealthCare Action Team (HAT)	Noon-1:30 pm 1010 Mission (at 6th) Bayanihan Center (NOTE NEW LOCATION!)	James Chionsini 703-0188 ext 304
Thurs. April 9	Long Term Care Coordinating Council	1:00-3:00pm 1 South Van Ness, 2nd Floor	Bill.Haskell@sfgov.org
Thurs. April 9	Senior Action Network (SAN) General Meeting	10:00-12:00 Unitarian Universalist Church 1187 Franklin @ Geary (NOTE NEW LOCATION!)	SAN 546-1333
Thurs. April 9	California Alliance for Retired Americans (CARA)	1:00 - 2:30 ILWU Office 1188 Franklin Street # 4, (NOTE NEW LOCATION!)	Jody Reid 550-0828
Wed. April 15	SAN Senior Housing Action Committee (SHAC)	1:00 - 3pm 965 Mission St Suite 700	Christina Olague 546-1333
Thurs. April 16	PECC Board of Directors Mtg.	5pm—6:30pm 965 Mission St, Suite 700	Alice Dueker 703-0188 ext 306
Fri. April 17	HSN General Meeting	9:30 - 11:30 am LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 214 Van Ness Avenue.	Debbi Lerman 415-668-0444
Fri. April 17	Mayor's Disability Council	1-4 City Hall Room 400	Mayors Office on Disability 415-554-6789
Thurs. April 16	PECC Newsletter Mailing	10:30-12:30 pm 965 Mission St, Suite 550	Sarah Jarmon 703-0188 ext 302
Fri April 24	SAN Health Program	10:00 am- 12:00 965 Mission Suite 700	James Keys 546-1335
Fri April 24	Senior Survival School Advisory Committee	1:00-2:30 965 Mission St., Suite 700	Sarah Jarmon 703-0188 ext 302

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NON-PROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE PAID
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Long Term Care News and Views is published by Planning for Elders (PECC). Production by PECC Staff and Volunteers: Alice Dueker Executive Director, Sarah Jarmon, Senior Survival School®; James Chionsini, HealthCare Action Team, PECC Volunteers Constance Smith, Lenny Reiter, Fran Chan, Florence Yuen, Bruce Allison, Alex Macdonald, Cordell Thompson, Tricia Webb. We would like to hear from you! Send information and commentary to Sarah@planningforelders.org or fax to (415) 703-0186.

Thanks to all our Funders for your generous support for our work!

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